SUPPLEMENT

TO THE

BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL.

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SPECIAL NOTICE TO MEMBERS.

Every member is requested to preserve this "Supplement," which contains matters specially referred to Divisions, until the subjects have been discussed by the Division to which he belongs.

BY ORDER.

MATTERS REFERRED TO DIVISIONS.

REPRESENTATIVE MEETING AT LEICESTER.

MONDAY, JULY 24TH, AND FOLLOWING DAYS.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

THE following notices of motion have been received for discussion by the Representative Meeting at the Annual Meeting of the Association to be held at Leicester, July 24th, 1905, and following days.

A.—Notices Concerning Alteration of the By-laws of the Association.

BY THE COUNCIL OF THE ASSOCIATION:

That the Council recommend the amendment of By-law 22 by the Annual Representative Meeting at Leicester in the following respect, namely: That the words "and of one member of the Royal Navy Medical Service, one member of the Army Medical Service, and one member of the Indian Medical Service, annually appointed by the Council to represent the said services respectively on the Council," occurring in the sixth line and onwards thereof, be deleted, and the following words be added to the by-law: "*The Council may also elect, if it thinks fit, at any of its meetings all or any one of the following, namely: 'One medical officer on the active or retired list of each of the following services: The Royal Navy Medical Service, the Royal Army Medical Service, and the Indian Medical Service. In each case he shall not have retired from the active list more than three years previously.*"

By the WANDSWORTH DIVISION (Metropolitan Counties Branch):

(*a*) By-law 23.—"Any Branch, or group of Branches, having an aggregate membership of not less than 200 may elect one member of Council, and any Branch or group of Branches having an aggregate

membership of not less than 400 may elect two members of Council, and an additional member for each complete 600 members in excess of 400, etc."

For "600" read "300."

(*b*) By-law 25.—"Each member of Council elected by a Branch in the United Kingdom shall be elected for one year, and at the end of that time shall be eligible for re-election unless he have served as such member of Council for eight years successively, in which case he shall for one year be ineligible for election as such member of Council."

For "one year" read "three years." For "eight years" read "six years."

B.—Other Notices of Motion.

By the WANDSWORTH DIVISION (Metropolitan Counties Branch):

Additions suggested to Standing Orders of Representative Meetings:

(1) All Representative Meetings, if not concluded by 6.30 p.m., shall stand adjourned either to 8.30 p.m. of the same day, or to the next day, as may be decided by a show of hands; all such meetings shall stand adjourned at 10 p.m. until the next day.

(2) Any resolution or notice put on the Agenda of a Representative Meeting by the Council or a Branch or Division can be temporarily withdrawn from discussion at any evening meeting, if the Chairman of the Council or the Representative of the Branch or Division, as the case may be, give notice at 6.30 p.m. that he so desires it.

(3) That the Representative Meeting do elect biennially a Chairman-elect for two years, who shall become Chairman during the third and fourth years, and Vice-Chairman during the fifth and sixth years, when he shall be ineligible for election for two years.

(4) That in the absence of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman do take the chair, and should the Vice-Chairman be also absent, the Chairman-elect shall do so. In the absence of all these the meeting to elect its own Chairman.

(5) That there be a Business Committee to consist of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Chairman-elect, who shall arrange the order of business and other details.

(6) That where necessary the Articles of Association, By-laws, and Standing Orders be altered so as to incorporate the above resolutions.

That the SUPPLEMENT of the JOURNAL, containing as it does the private business of the members, be not issued with the JOURNAL otherwise than to members.

That in all cases where the British Medical Association is given by Act of Parliament or otherwise a representative position on any permanent Board or Council, the selection of the Representative or Representatives shall rest ultimately with the Representatives Meeting.

That it be an instruction to the Central Council to prepare a scheme suitable for meeting all such contingencies, and to submit it to the Divisions for consideration before March 31st, 1906.

By the SOUTHERN BRANCH:

That this meeting of the Southern Branch considers that the British Medical Association should afford all possible facilities to town and districts for starting and carrying on local provident medical services embracing all forms of club practice; that an official from the head office should be sent, whenever desired, to co-operate with local medical men in the inauguration of such services, and that model rules and regulations for their working should be drafted by the Medical Secretary and supplied from the head office on request.

By the SALFORD DIVISION (Lancashire and Cheshire Branch):

1. That the proceedings of the Central Council ought to be published in as much detail as those of the Annual Representative Meeting, in order to stimulate interest in its doings.
2. That all increases of salary or alteration of status among the chief paid officials of the Association ought first to be submitted for approval to the Annual Representative Meeting before any definite action is taken by the Council.

By the WALTHAMSTOW DIVISION (Metropolitan Counties Branch):

1. That to ensure adequate consideration of resolutions brought forward by Divisions, notices of motion be taken in future at a more convenient time, and, if possible, before the annual report of Council.
2. That the Ethical Committee be requested to consider the relative ethical position of consultants and the medical practitioner in attendance to each other and to the patients, and report.

GUY ELLISTON, *General Secretary.*

February 23rd.

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

AT a special meeting of the Council held, by kind permission of the Metropolitan Asylums Board, London, in their Board Room, on Wednesday, February 15th, 1905.

Present:

Mr. ANDREW CLARK, D.Sc., Chairman of Council, in the Chair.
Dr. WILLIAM COLLIER, President.
Sir VICTOR HORSLEY, F.R.S., Chairman of Representative Meetings.
Dr. E. MARKHAM SKERRITT, Treasurer.

Dr. JOHN FORD ANDERSON, London.
Dr. MICHAEL BEVERLEY, Norwich.
Dr. H. LANGLEY BROWNE, West Bromwich.
Dr. R. COCHRANE BUIST, Dundee.
Dr. JAMES CRAIG, Dublin.
Dr. H. RADCLIFFE CROCKER, London.
Professor DAVID W. FINLAY, M.D., LL.D., Aberdeen.
Mr. C. E. S. FLEMMING, Bradford-on-Avon.
Dr. E. ROWLAND FOTHERGILL, London.
Dr. EDWARD LAWRENCE FOX, Plymouth.
Dr. H. A. FRANCIS (Queensland Branch), London.
Dr. JOHN H. GALTON, Upper Norwood.
Dr. BRUCE GOFF, Bothwell.
Dr. DAVID GOYDER, Bradford.
Dr. MAJOR GREENWOOD, London.
Dr. JOSEPH GROVES, Carisbrooke.
Dr. R. MCKENZIE JOHNSTON, Edinburgh.
Mr. R. H. KINSEY, Bedford.
Dr. C. H. MILBURN, Hull.
Mr. W. JONES MORRIS, Portmadoc.
Professor J. T. J. MORRISON, Birmingham.
Dr. CHARLES JAMES MORTON, London.
Dr. JAMES MURRAY, Inverness.
Mr. D. A. O'SULLIVAN, London.
Mr. EDMUND OWEN, London.
Mr. C. H. WATTS PARKINSON, Wimborne Minster.
Dr. FRANK M. POPE, Leicester.
Dr. EDWIN RAYNER, Stockport.
Professor ROBERT SAUNDBY, M.D., LL.D., Birmingham.
Dr. CECIL E. SHAW, Belfast.
Mr. W. D. SPANTON, Hanley.
Fleet-Surg. J. LLOYD THOMAS, R.N., Portsmouth.
Mr. T. JENNER VERRALL, Brighton.
Captain C. E. WILLIAMS, I.M.S. (Burmah Branch), London.

The minutes of the last meeting having been printed and circulated, and no objections received, were taken as read and signed as correct.

Read letters of apology for non-attendance from the President-elect, the Past-President, Dr. E. G. Barnes, Dr. James Barr, Dr. J. Brassey Brierley, Dr. W. A. Carline, Mr. P. R. Cresswell, C.B., Dr. P. Maury Deas, Lieutenant-Colonel E. F.

Drake-Brockman, I.M.S.(ret.), Dr. G. B. Ferguson. Dr. J. J. Giusani, Dr. James Hamilton, Dr. T. S. Kerr, Dr. C. W. Marriott, Dr. C. G. D. Morier, Dr. James Murphy, Mr. J. Lynn Thomas, C.B., Dr. Norman Walker, and Dr. Denis Walshe.

On consideration of the minutes of the Organization Committee it was resolved:

That the Agenda of all Representative Meetings be issued to the Secretaries of Branches and Divisions.

That the Rules submitted by the Dundee Branch, the South-West Wales, Aylesbury, Newton Abbot, and Tunbridge Wells Divisions be approved.

That the Shropshire Division be constituted a separate Branch.

That the rules of the Cape of Good Hope (Western Province) and Hong Kong Branches be approved with the exceptions stated; and that the amended rules submitted by the Metropolitan Counties Branch be approved, subject to the attention of the Branch being drawn to the wording of Rule 1.

That the proposed union of the Canterbury and Faversham Divisions be approved.

The recommendation that the Council be advised to propose that the limit for a separate constituency to elect a Representative under Article XXVII be reduced to 30, was referred back to the Organization Committee with instructions to consider the question of area as well as of number.

That the Council approve the suggestions made by the Medico-Political Committee in response to the communication of the Organization Committee. (See proceedings of Medico-Political Committee, November 16th, 1904, p. 178.)

That such matters as are specially referred to Divisions should occupy first place in the SUPPLEMENT, and that bold type be used in order to draw attention to them.

That it is advisable that a conference of the Honorary Secretaries of Divisions and Branches should be held at Leicester, and that the arrangements for this year be made by a Committee of those members of Council who are Secretaries of Branches or Divisions with power to co-opt other Honorary Secretaries.

That the Council approve, as a suggestion to the Branches, the form of voting paper submitted for the election of members of Council by Branches.

That the forms of annual reports of Branches to the Central Council appended to the Minutes be approved.

That the Council refer back to the Committee of Secretaries and Treasurers of the Metropolitan Counties Branch the resolution addressed to the Council, with an intimation that such proposals should first be submitted for the consideration of the Branch Council by which the Committee was appointed.

On consideration of the minutes of the Colonial Committee it was resolved:

That the General Secretary be instructed to communicate with the Colonial Office, pointing out the objection to Clause 2 (2)(*b*), of the Draft Ordinance:

> (*b*) In the case of a person claiming to be qualified otherwise than under the said Acts, a certificate of the Council of the Ceylon Medical College that such person is entitled to be registered under this Ordinance.

and to suggest that the Ceylon Council might be pleased to eliminate it from the Ordinance.

That the General Secretary communicate with the Branches concerned with a view to obtaining copies of the Medical Bills for Queensland, New South Wales, and the Straits Settlements. Also to obtain information from the Colonial Office of any medical legislation now under the consideration of the Colonial Governments.

The minutes of the Medical Secretary Committee were received, and the recommendation that the Medical Secretary should act as Secretary to the following professional Committees, namely, Medico-Political, Public Health, Royal Naval and Military, Ethical, Hospitals, and Organization Committees, also the Representative Meetings. was approved.

On consideration of the minutes of the Public Health Committee it was resolved:

That the Local Government Board be approached in order to secure their support to the Public Health Bill prepared by the Association, and that they be invited to receive a deputation thereon.

On consideration of the minutes of the Royal Naval and Military Committee it was resolved:

That the Council, having duly considered the reply of the War Office, dated August 12th, 1904, relative to the pay of officers of the Militia Medical Service, is of opinion, and strongly recommends, that in any future embodiment of the Militia, officers of the Militia Medical Service should be entitled to and receive the rates of pay of corresponding ranks in the R.A.M.C. as a matter of course, and not as an exceptional measure.

On consideration of the minutes of the Medico-Political Committee it was resolved:

That the support of the Association be given to the Public Health Bill, as laid before the Council by the Public Health Committee, including provisions as to qualification as one of the conditions of security of tenure.

That in reference to the matters referred to the Committee under Minute 701 of the Council of July 6th, 1904, the Council reply to the Midland Medical Union in the terms stated in the report of the Medico-Political Committee.

That the Council approve that the memorial on the Indecent Advertisements Act be submitted to the Home Secretary.

That the names and numbers of members attending the meetings of Divisions be not included in the reports of Divisions published in the JOURNAL.

The minutes of the Hospitals Committee were then considered, and the verbal alterations in the principles of hospital management were approved.

The minutes of the Medical Defence Committee and of the Chairmen of Committees on the Alteration of the Memorandum of Association were received, and further consideration deferred until the next meeting.

On consideration of the minutes of the Chairmen of Committees on the Alteration of the Standing Orders, certain new Standing Orders for the appointment of Committees by the Council were approved.

That this year, to facilitate the procedure of the Council for the appointment of Committees, Branch Secretaries be requested to send in the election returns of their Branch Representatives by June 27th.

On consideration of the minutes of the Ethical Committee in reference to the following:

> The report of a Branch Council on the case of a member who, on the ground of unethical conduct, had been called upon by the Branch Council, in pursuance of the Rules of the Branch, to make a suitable apology to the members of the Division of which he is a member, and, after the expiration of over three months, had failed to make the apology,

it was resolved that the member be informed that this Council will reconsider the report made to it at the April meeting, and trusts that in the meanwhile he will see his way to make the apology required, as otherwise the Council will of necessity have to take a most serious view of the case.

The Council approved the Rules of Ethical Procedure of the South-Western Branch and the South-West Wales Division; Special Ethical Rules (as adopted by the Bradford Division) for the Cardiff, Coventry, Southampton, and Isle of Wight Divisions; and Rule Z for the Dundee Branch and the Consett, Gateshead, Monmouth, Tyneside, and South Shields Divisions.

It was decided that the General Medical Council be requested to consider the advisability of issuing a general warning against canvassing and advertising for practice.

The minutes of the Superannuation Committee were received, and further consideration was postponed pending the report of an actuary.

The minutes of the Annual Meeting (Sections) Committee were received and approved.

In consideration of the minutes of the Scottish Committee it was resolved:

That the report of the Departmental Committee on Poor-law Medical Relief in Scotland be submitted for the consideration of the Scottish Divisions.

That the attention of the Central Criminal authorities in Scotland be drawn to the variations in local practice in granting permission for medical representatives of the defence to be present at the official autopsies and criminal cases.

The minutes of the Colonial (Joint) Constitution Committee were received and approved.

On consideration of the minutes of the Scientific Co-ordination Committee, it was resolved:

That the Therapeutic Committee (Special) shall consist of ten members appointed annually by the Council. The Committee shall have power to co-opt three others, whether members of the Association or not, and may also elect corresponding members. Its functions shall be—(1) To furnish members of the Association with information regarding new remedies; (2) to institute the definite investigation—experimental, clinical, or statistical—of new remedies; (3) to make suggestions for the revision of the *British Pharmacopoeia*.

That in April of each year it shall submit to the Council a report of the work done and a programme for the ensuing year, together with an estimate of the expense of each proposed investigation. The Committee shall appoint its own Chairman and Secretary, who shall be members of the Association but not necessarily members of Council.

That it is desirable to encourage the formation of Division Libraries, and to facilitate exchange of duplicate books the Librarian at the Head Office in London should so far as possible keep a list of duplicates in Division and other Medical Libraries.

That the attention of Division Secretaries be called to the subjects of discussion at the Annual Meeting, and it is suggested that members bring before their Divisions as many cases as possible illustrating these subjects.

That it be suggested to the officers of Sections that problems arising in course of discussion be suggested to the Division as subjects for further consideration.

That it is desirable to form a lending library for research by duplicating the leading special periodicals.

That the Scientific Grants Committee should consider the question of supplying or aiding in the purchase of the necessary literature for individual scientific researches with a view to the formation of a special library for research.

The minutes of the Scientific Grants Committee and of the Premises and Library Committee were received and approved.

Read letter received from the New Zealand Branch, which was referred to the Organization Committee.

It was resolved to publish in the SUPPLEMENT of the JOURNAL notices of motion for Representative Meetings as soon after they are sent in as possible.

An acknowledgement of the resolution of condolence passed at the last meeting upon the death of Dr. William Vawdrey Lush was read and ordered to be entered on the minutes.

Certain other matters were deferred to the next meeting of the Council, to be held on Wednesday, April 19th, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, while the Journal and Finance Committee will meet a week earlier.

The Council rose at 6.35 o'clock.

Proceedings of Standing Committees.

MEDICO-POLITICAL COMMITTEE.

November 16th, 1904.

A MEETING of the Medico-Political Committee was held at the offices of the Association on November 16th, 1904, when there were present: Dr. R. C. BUIST in the chair, Dr. W. Collier (President of the Association), Sir Victor Horsley, F.R.S. (Chairman of Representative Meetings), Dr. Major Greenwood, Mr. T. Garrett Horder, Dr. J. A. Macdonald, Mr. W. Jones Morris, Mr. E. H. T. Nash, Mr. D. A. O'Sullivan, and Mr. C. H. Watts Parkinson.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Letters of apology for non-attendance were read from the Chairman of Council, Mr. G. Jackson, Dr. L. Kidd, Mr. M. A. Messiter, and Dr. J. Murphy.

MEDICAL ATTENDANCE IN CRIMINAL CASES.

A communication from the Council of the Midland Medical Union enclosing a Memorandum and resolutions concerning the position of medical attendants in criminal cases, referred by the Council of the Association to the Committee, was referred to the Subcommittee on the payment of medical witnesses and of practitioners called in to emergency cases by the police.

REFERENCES TO DIVISIONS.

The Committee considered a communication from the Organization Committee, asking their opinion on the matters raised by the following resolution passed by the Walthamstow Division which had been referred by the Council to the Organization Committee:

> That it is the opinion of this Division that the present method of referring business for its consideration is not satisfactory, and that the Central Council be requested to forward periodically to the Secretary a memorandum of such business together with a concise statement of the facts and of the essential points on which an opinion is required.

In reply the Medico-Political Committee made the following suggestions:

1. That matters to be referred to Divisions should be issued as soon as they are ready, rather than periodically, and that each reference should conclude by a categorical statement of (*a*) the points on which action by the Divisions is suggested, or (*b*), when the opinion of the Division is desired, by questions in such form if possible, as admits of direct affirmative or negative answer.

2. That, before each quarterly meeting of Council, a tabular statement of the matters referred to Divisions be furnished in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, the matters to be arranged under the names of the Council or the Committee which sent them down.

3. That a calendar of the prospective meetings of Standing and Special Committees for the next three months appear in the JOURNAL each week.

4. That to secure the attention to the SUPPLEMENT which is necessary, if reports referred to Divisions are to appear therein and not be separately issued, weekly SUPPLEMENTS are desirable.

THE MEDICAL REGISTER.

The Committee received from the Bradford Division an intimation of a resolution which that Division was circulating to the Divisions generally with a view to concerted action.

PAYMENT FOR MEDICAL CERTIFICATES OF UNFITNESS OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

The MEDICAL SECRETARY reported the results of inquiries which had been addressed to Scottish School Boards as to provision made by them for payment of medical practitioners for certificates of unfitness of school children to attend school, and the matter was referred to the Scottish Committee. The Medical Secretary reported also a communication from the Aylesbury Division notifying the action taken by them in the matter, and it was resolved that the legal opinions which have from time to time been obtained with reference to the subject be collated and circulated to the Committee prior to its next meeting.

AMENDMENT OF THE INDECENT ADVERTISEMENTS ACT.

Mr. T. Garrett Horder and the Medical Secretary were requested to draw up a memorial suitable for presentation to the Home Office in favour of the amendment of the Indecent Advertisements Act.

MATTERS REFERRED TO DIVISIONS.

The Committee approved the Memorandum[1] which had been prepared by the Chairman and Secretary to accompany resolutions and reports on medico-political matters referred by the Annual Representative Meeting to the Divisions.

THE NATIONAL DEPOSIT FRIENDLY SOCIETY.

Correspondence with the National Deposit Friendly Society was read, and it was resolved that it be pointed out to the Society that the form in which their communication dated October 31st had been couched precluded the Association from replying on the subject of the communication.

The Committee approved for circulation to the Divisions the epitome which the Medical Secretary had prepared of the Medical Acts Amendment Bill, and also a Memorandum[2] on the unduly repeated dispensing of prescriptions and the recommendation of drugs and proprietary articles by name.

PRELIMINARY MEDICAL EDUCATION.

The minutes of the Subcommittee on Preliminary Education were received, and the Subcommittee were authorized to forward to the Board of Education their Memorandum on the proposed Government certificate of secondary education when ready.

PROCEEDINGS OF SUBCOMMITTEES.

The minutes of the Subcommittees on (B) Fees to Medical Witnesses and Police Fees, and (C) Coroners' Law and Death Registration were received.

PAYMENT OF MEDICAL MEN CALLED IN TO ASSIST MIDWIVES.

The CHAIRMAN submitted a Memorandum on the payment of medical men called in to assist midwives, and the Memorandum was approved as the basis of a communication to the Divisions, which the Chairman and Secretary were authorized to prepare.

THE CORONER FOR SOUTH-WEST LONDON.

The Committee received a report of the proceedings of a Conference of Medical Societies on November 3rd in the matter of the Coroner for South-West London.

[1] SUPPLEMENT to the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, November 26th, 190 p. 178.

[2] The Memorandum sen in pursuance of this instruction will be found on pages 63-4.

SUPPLY OF GOVERNMENT LYMPH TO ALL MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS.

The Chairman of Committee, the Chairman of Representative Meetings, and the Medical Secretary, who had been appointed a deputation to wait upon the Medical Officer of the Local Government Board with reference to the supply of Government lymph to all medical practitioners, reported that they had accordingly met the Medical Officer of the Local Government Board and the Assistant Secretary of the Board on November 2nd.

SECURITY OF TENURE OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH.

The Chairman of the Public Health Committee brought before the Committee the Public Health Bill as prepared by that Committee, and it was resolved to recommend that the support of the Association be given to the Bill, including provisions as to qualifications as one of the conditions of security of tenure.

THE REVACCINATION BILL.

The MEDICAL SECRETARY reported that, acting upon the instructions of the Public Health Committee, he had inquired of the Imperial Vaccination League and the Public Vaccinators' Association as to the action which they proposed to take in the next session of Parliament with reference to vaccination, and stated the replies received.

December 21st, 1904.

A further meeting of the Committee was held on December 21st, 1904, when there were present: Dr. R. C. Buist, in the chair; Sir Victor Horsley, F.R.S., Chairman of Representative Meetings; Dr. Major Greenwood, Mr. George Jackson, Dr. Leonard Kidd, Dr. J. A. Macdonald, Mr. Jones Morris, and Mr. C. H. Watts Parkinson.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Letters of apology for non-attendance were read from the Chairman of Council, the Treasurer, Mr. T. Garrett Horder, Dr. J. Murphy, Mr. E. H. T. Nash, and Mr. D. A. O'Sullivan.

THE MEDICAL ACTS AMENDMENT BILL.

The MEDICAL SECRETARY reported that in reply to an inquiry he had stated that the exception in Clause II, Section III, of the Medical Acts Amendment Bill related only to officers of the army and navy who were not engaged in private practice, and that the inquirer had suggested that certain civil officers should be permitted to claim exemption. The Committee decided that the matter should be considered when the Bill was again before them.

SCHOOL CERTIFICATES.

A communication was received from the General Medical Council forwarding, as the reply of the Council to the communication from the Committee concerning a medical certificate given by an unregistered chemist, an opinion by Mr. Muir Mackenzie.[1] It was decided that the reply of the General Medical Council should be entered on the minutes. It was resolved also that the attention of the President of the Council should be drawn to the inaccuracy of certain statements reported to have been made in the debate on the subject in the General Medical Council, to the effect that the certificate in question was given on a chemist's memorandum form, and did not on the face of it purport to be a medical certificate, the fact being that the certificate was given on a printed form issued by the educational authority, and headed "Form of Medical Certificate," there being nothing throughout to indicate that the person who had signed it was not a medical practitioner.

VACANT APPOINTMENTS.

The MEDICAL SECRETARY reported inquiries which he had received as to whether there was any objection on the part of the Association or the local profession to certain appointments which were advertised as vacant, and drew attention to the importance of his being placed in a position, as far as possible, to answer such inquiries promptly. The Committee recommended that a standing notice be inserted in the JOURNAL asking those who were in possession of such information to communicate with the Medical Secretary.

THE REGISTRATION OF NURSES.

In reply to a communication from the Altrincham Division, the Committee instructed the Medical Secretary to state that the question of the approval by the Association of the registration of nurses having been determined by the Representative Meeting, the matter could only be opened by a notice of motion from a Division to the next Representative Meeting to rescind or otherwise modify the resolution.

[1] Ibid, December 3rd, 1904, p. 212.

CONSULTATION OF MEDICAL WITNESSES IN LONDON.

The MEDICAL SECRETARY reported an inquiry from a Division as to the procedure followed in London in the matter of consultation of medical witnesses in legal cases, and that Sir Victor Horsley and Mr. Herbert Page, as members of the Subcommittee which inquired into the matter, had kindly furnished him with information which enabled him to answer the inquiry. The Committee thanked Sir Victor Horsley and Mr. Herbert Page for their assistance, and entered the following *précis* of the information given upon their minutes:

> It is in most cases possible to arrange for a joint examination of the patient and for a free discussion of the case. Usually agreement is arrived at upon the facts, and frequently also upon the matters of opinion. It is not the custom to put this agreement into writing.
>
> The medical witnesses report separately to the agents by whom they are employed.

MEDICAL MEN AND AMBULANCE COMPETITIONS.

A communication from a Member of the Association having been considered with reference to fees paid to medical men for services in connexion with ambulance competitions, a Memorandum by the Chairman was considered and approved by the Committee and was ordered to be circulated to the Divisions. The Committee decided that it would be desirable that attention should be drawn in the JOURNAL to the proposals now being made that medical practitioners should undertake the duty of teaching hygiene in schools or to teachers.

PROVIDENT MEDICAL SERVICES.

The following resolution of the Southern Branch was considered:

> That this meeting of the Southern Branch considers that the British Medical Association should afford all possible facilities to towns and districts for starting and carrying on local Provident Medical Services, embracing all forms of club practice; that an official from the head office should be sent, whenever desired, to co-operate with local medical men in the inauguration of such services, and that model rules and regulations for their working should be drafted by the Medical Secretary and supplied from the head office on request.

The Committee expressed the opinion that the assistance desired by the Branch falls within the scope of the duties of the Medical Secretary which the Committee was instructed by the Annual Representative Meeting at Swansea to direct him upon occasion to perform, and that the Chairman of the Committee was at present authorized to sanction such assistance. The Medical Secretary was instructed to prepare a special report on the various forms of provident medical services (as distinct from registered Friendly Societies) now in operation in different parts of the country.

CORONERS AND MEDICAL MEN.

A communication from the Tottenham Division suggesting certain action in the matter of a coroner was read. The Committee instructed the Medical Secretary to inform the Division that the Association was already taking action in reference to certain matters named, and with reference to the rest to ask for further information.

THE NATIONAL DEPOSIT FRIENDLY SOCIETY.

The SECRETARY reported a letter written to the National Deposit Friendly Society in pursuance of the instructions of the Committee at its last meeting, and a reply received thereto. The Editor of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL informed the Committee of communications which he had received from the Society desiring the publication of certain correspondence in the JOURNAL, and his reply that he did not consider it proper to publish in the JOURNAL correspondence which was under consideration by a Committee of the Association. A Memorandum drafted by the Chairman and Medical Secretary was approved for submission to the Divisions, in order to give effect to the instruction of the Annual Representative Meeting at Oxford—that the report of the Committee on this matter, which was approved by the Meeting, should be communicated to the Divisions with proposals for concerted action. (The memorandum was published in the SUPPLEMENT of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL for January 14th, 1905, p. 9.)

MEDICAL WITNESSES AND POLICE FEES.

The Subcommittee on Medical Witnesses and Police Fees presented a further interim report stating that some of the subjects of reference required further consideration. The Subcommittee reported that as the result of inquiry it was found that the police authorities of large towns in England and Wales paid fees to medical practitioners when summoned by the police to give medical attendance, and that the scales were usually adequate.

THE MEDICAL ATTENDANT IN CRIMINAL CASES.

The same Subcommittee reported that they had considered a communication from the Midland Medical Union containing the following note prepared by Dr. Duncan, and resolutions of three Branches of the Union referred by the Council to the Committee:

The criminal cases that appear from time to time in the courts where the crux of the charge rests on the evidence of the medical attendant seldom fail to bring into prominence the unsatisfactory state of things at present prevailing in regard to medical attendants coming forward with suspicions of foul play which they may entertain.

If, as in the Maud Marsh trial, the judge or the jury comment adversely on the fact of the medical attendant not having given information earlier, the publicity given to such comments brands the practitioner as incompetent in the eyes of quite a number of the public and of his patients.

If, on the other hand, he does communicate his suspicions to the police as soon as they are aroused (and while the patient in, say, a supposed poisoning case, is still alive), the suspicions expressed will almost certainly reach the ears of the party concerned. Should they be well founded, a crime may be frustrated; but, should the symptoms be capable of an innocent explanation, the medical man finds himself in an awkward fix indeed: and even if no legal proceedings are taken against him, he is bound to alienate a large number of his patients, and may have to leave the district altogether.

The knowledge of the above may well make a man put off saying anything from day to day, in the hope that each day will bring clearer evidence, till perhaps the patient dies; and, while still discussing with himself the *pros* and *cons* and unable to be certain that the symptoms are *not* capable of a natural explanation, he signs a death certificate bearing the most prominent symptom, and his unspoken suspicions remain unsolved.

This is not as it should be. In the interests of justice it is essential that a medical attendant's suspicions should be voiced at once; in the interests of the practitioner it is also essential that while those suspicions are being weighed and sifted there should be no possibility of anything leaking out till the suspicions become practical certainties; while, in the event of their proving unfounded, they would remain as if they had been unspoken.

Such a state of things can be easily attained by the appointment of "Crown consultants," selected and paid by the Home Office, not by the local authorities. They would be in every centre, and would be drawn from the ranks of medical men who have made themselves specially proficient in forensic medicine.

It would be open to the perplexed practitioner to discuss his case with one of these consultants, and be guided by expert advice. If the suspicious symptoms cleared up, or could be explained away by the consultant, there would be an end of the matter. If, on the other hand, the consultant saw grounds for supposing criminal intent, he would, as soon as his suspicions were confirmed, inform the police, and take the responsibility for doing so.

The foregoing will make it clear in what cases it would be intended for the practitioner to make use of the services of the Crown consultant, viz., in those cases where a crime is being committed under his nose, and in which an attempt is being made to use him as a covering instrument.

In other cases where he is consulted openly and straightforwardly, and where no attempt is being made to interfere with the medical man's first duty—the cure of the sick or injured—any information gleaned in a professional capacity would be under the seal of professional secrecy, as at present.

The following resolution was passed by the Chesterfield and Mansfield Branches of the Midland Medical Union:

That a statement setting out the unsatisfactory position of the medical attendant in criminal cases be submitted to the British Medical Association and the General Medical Council, together with a suggestion that a memorial be presented to the Home Secretary that Crown consultants be appointed and paid by the Home Office, the duty of such Crown consultants being to undertake the responsibility of examining in cases of suspicion and of reporting to the police authorities.

The following resolution was passed by the Nottingham Branch of the Union:

That (1) the Nottingham Branch of the Midland Medical Union is of opinion that the note prepared by Dr. W. Duncan is worthy of consideration, but the Branch does not definitely adopt his particular suggestion; (2) the Branch is further of opinion that the whole question of the relation of medical men to criminal cases needs investigation, and is specially drawn to this conclusion by observation of the alarming increase of the practice of using preparations of lead, such as diachylon, for the purpose of procuring abortion.

The Committee approved and adopted as their recommendation to the Council the report of the Subcommittee to the following effect:

(1) That in cases of suspected crime the right of the practitioner to demand a consultation is a sufficient safeguard if he will use it;
(2) That the appointment of Crown consultants would probably defeat its own object, inasmuch as (*a*) the calling in of such a consultant in any individual case would be regarded by the public as equivalent to a statement that crime was suspected, and (*b*) private conference with the Crown consultant without personal examination of the patient by him could in no condition be considered satisfactory.

SECRETARY'S REPORT OF MEETINGS ATTENDED.

The MEDICAL SECRETARY reported as to meetings which he had attended since the last meeting of the Committee at which his assistance had been desired in respect of medico-political matters.

PUBLICATION IN THE SUPPLEMENT OF MATTERS REFERRED TO DIVISIONS.

The MEDICAL SECRETARY reported that in forwarding to the Honorary Secretaries of Divisions various Memoranda ordered by the Committee at its last Meeting to be circulated, he had, by instruction of the Chairmen of the Medico-Political and Organization Committees, included an inquiry as to the comparative advantages of relying on publication in the SUPPLEMENT as a means of bringing such reports to the notice of Members, or, in the alternative, having copies separately printed for issue to Members with the notices of Meetings, and that the majority of Honorary Secretaries who had replied thought publication in the SUPPLEMENT on the whole preferable.

The Committee resolved that it was desirable that when SUPPLEMENTS contained matters referred to Divisions, the following words be put in bold type:

Members will please carefully preserve this SUPPLEMENT until the Division has discussed the matters contained therein.

PAYMENT OF MEDICAL MEN CALLED IN TO ASSIST MIDWIVES.

The Committee approved the Memorandum on the payment of medical men called in to assist midwives as submitted to the Divisions.

It was decided that a communication from a Division concerning an advertisement of a nursing institution should be reported to the Central Midwives Board.

THE INDECENT ADVERTISEMENT ACT.

The Committee approved the memorial prepared by Mr. T. Garrett Horder and the Medical Secretary on the Indecent Advertisement Act, and recommended the Council to forward the same to the Home Secretary.

PAYMENT FOR MEDICAL CERTIFICATES OF UNFITNESS OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

The MEDICAL SECRETARY submitted a report prepared by instruction of the Committee on the present state of the law with reference to certificates of unfitness of children to attend school, and it was resolved that the same be communicated to the Divisions for their information.

THE REVACCINATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH BILLS.

The Medical Secretary was instructed to bring under the notice of Secretaries of Divisions the Revaccination Bill and the Public Health Bill, and to make certain suggestions as to action which should be taken in reference thereto.

THE MEDICAL PROFESSION IN PARLIAMENT.

The Committee considered communications received with reference to the improvement of the representation of the profession in Parliament, and referred the matter for further investigation to the following Subcommittee: The Chairman, Dr. W. Gordon, Dr. E. Jepson, Dr. J. A. Macdonald, and Mr. E. H. T. Nash.

February 15th, 1905.

A further meeting of the Medico-Political Committee was held at the office of the Association on February 15th, 1905, when there were present: Dr. R. C. BUIST (in the Chair); Dr. W. Collier (President of the Association); Sir Victor Horsley, F.R.S. (Chairman of Representative Meetings); Mr. Andrew Clark, F.R.C.S. (Chairman of Council); Dr. E. Markham Skerritt (Treasurer); Dr. Major Greenwood, Mr. T. Garrett

Horder, Mr. George Jackson, Dr. J. A. Macdonald, Mr. W. Jones Morris, Mr. E. H. T. Nash, Mr. D. A. O'Sullivan, and Mr. C. H. Watts Parkinson.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Letters of apology for non-attendance were read from Dr. L. Kidd, Mr. M. A. Messiter, and Dr. James Murphy.

ACTION CONCERNING A COLLIERY APPOINTMENT.

The MEDICAL SECRETARY reported an application from a colliery surgeon for advice and assistance with respect to new terms which were being offered by the workmen's committee of a colliery, the principal provisions being that the salary was fixed, no private practice was to be allowed, the general public were to be admitted for medical attendance at the same subscription to the fund as miners (the medical officer receiving 12½ per cent. of such subscriptions), and if the medical officer received public appointments, the salary, except 12½ per cent., was to go to the fund. The Medical Secretary reported the action which on his advice had been taken by the applicant, and also by the Honorary Secretary of the Division, and that as a result the workmen's committee had applied to the Division to ascertain the objections of the profession to the appointment. Meetings of the Division and of the officers of the Branch and its Divisions were being held to consider the subject. The Committee approved the action of the Medical Secretary.

SUPPLYING REPRINTS OF REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE.

The Committee approved the action of the Chairman in instructing that copies of certain reports of the Committee should be supplied as desired by the Honorary Secretary of a Division for circulation to all practitioners in the Division area.

DEATH REGISTRATION AND CORONERS' LAW.

The Committee received the minutes and report of the Subcommittee appointed on October 5th, 1904, to consider the matters arising out of instructions of the Annual Representative Meeting at Oxford respecting death registration reform, and amendment of the coroners' law, and adopted the report of the Subcommittee as the report of the Committee on the subject for circulation to the Divisions.[1]

PARLIAMENTARY REPRESENTATION.

The Committee received the minutes of a Subcommittee appointed on December 21st, 1904, to consider the matters arising under the instruction of the Annual Representative Meeting at Oxford to the Council concerning the improvement of the parliamentary representation of the profession, which the Council has referred to the Committee. The Committee adopted a report for presentation to the Council in April.

MEDICAL SECRETARY'S VISITS TO DIVISIONS.

The Committee approved the report of the Medical Secretary as to meetings which he had attended or promised to attend for the consideration of medico-political matters.

MEDICAL ACTS AMENDMENT BILL AND PHARMACISTS.

The Committee approved also the report of the Chairman and Secretary of a conference with officers of the Pharmaceutical Society with reference to amendments in the Medical Acts Amendment Bill which might be required to protect the legitimate interests of pharmacists.

NATIONAL DEPOSIT FRIENDLY SOCIETY.

The Committee considered a communication from the Editor of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL with respect to the publication in the JOURNAL of certain letters which had passed between the Committee and the National Deposit Friendly Society, and resolved that they be published with an accompanying report from the Committee to the Association.

COLLIERY DISPUTES.

A communication from a Division was ordered to be filed for reference with respect to the action by Divisions in cases in which miners' associations may intervene with the object of reducing the payment to colliery surgeons.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND POST-MORTEM EXAMINATION.

The MEDICAL SECRETARY reported the action which had been taken on the application of a Division to oppose the following clause which a corporation had inserted in a private Bill to be introduced into Parliament:

No *post-mortem* examination shall be performed in any private dwelling-house within the borough without the written authority of the medical officer of health. Any person performing or assisting in performing any *post-mortem* examination without such authority shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding ten pounds;

and that as a result the corporation had undertaken to have the clause deleted.

The action taken was approved, and the Chairman and Secretary were authorized to take such further action as might be necessary to prevent the enactment of such a clause.

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE TO MIDWIVES.

A member of the Committee drew attention to the following form issued by the Central Midwives Board which had been sent by a midwife to a medical practitioner when applying for his assistance:

CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

RECORD OF SENDING FOR MEDICAL HELP.

No.....3... Date.....

Name of Patient.....

.....

Address .....

.....

.....

Requires medical assistance on account of.....

.....

.....

.....

Signed .....

(Certified Midwife).

Sent to (doctor) .....

At (address) .....

.....

Time of sending message .....

The Committee resolved that it should be pointed out to the Midwives Board that while it is desirable that midwives should keep documental record of cases in which medical help is obtained, such a document should not be transmitted to a practitioner as a summons to attend.

FEES PAID BY THE POLICE FOR EMERGENCY ATTENDANCES.

The Committee received a further report on replies of police authorities to the inquiries of the Committee concerning the fees paid to medical practitioners in emergency cases, and resolved that the Medical Secretary should be instructed to communicate with the Divisions in the area of which no payment was made, and furnish them with the information which had been received by the Committee.

PARLIAMENTARY MATTERS AFFECTING THE PROFESSION.

The Committee approved the report of the Medical Secretary on the present position of parliamentary matters affecting the profession.

CONTRACT PRACTICE INQUIRY.

A report on the present position of the contract practice inquiry was received, and it was resolved that the attention of those Divisions from which few or no replies had been received be drawn to the matter.

AGREEMENTS AS TO CONTRACT PRACTICE.

The Committee approved the heads suggested by the Medical Secretary and Solicitor for a model form of agreement between medical practitioners and contract practice organizations.

PROPOSED SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE.

The following memorandum on the circular issued by the Board of Education in July, 1904, on the proposed institution of a Government certificate of secondary education has been forwarded on behalf of the British Medical Association to the Board of

[1] The report will appear in the next issue of the SUPPLEMENT.

Education and acknowledged. The memorandum of the Board was published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL *of August 6th, 1904, page 292.*[1]

MEMORANDUM TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION CONCERNING THE CIRCULAR ISSUED BY THE BOARD IN JULY ON THE PROPOSED INSTITUTION OF A GOVERNMENT CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION.

THE British Medical Association, having for some considerable time given very careful attention to the question of the standard of Secondary Education which should be required as a condition of entrance upon the technical studies for professions, and having upon this subject arrived at certain definite conclusions which are set forth in a Memorandum communicated to the Board of Education on July 6th, begs to submit for the consideration of the Board of Education the following comments on the proposals contained in the Report of the Consultative Committee issued by the Board in July.

(1) The British Medical Association would represent that those bodies which have so far been consulted by the Consultative Committee are chiefly teaching or examining institutions, and that the Board of Education should have equal regard to the experience of bodies like the British Medical Association which have special opportunities of ascertaining the results of various systems of tuition and of various examinations, as exhibited in the after-history of those who have been submitted to them.

(2) The Medical profession, from its long experience of the system of multiple examining bodies in professional subjects, has special knowledge of the resultant inequalities of standard, and of the difficulty of effecting improvements in face of the opposition of established interests.

(3) The British Medical Association is unable to concur in the proposal that, in lieu of a single standard examination as originally suggested by the Head Master's Conference, there should be an indefinite number of examinations managed by separate bodies, and it is in a position to say that a large majority of Members of the Medical profession hold that the standard of Secondary Education required for entrance to the Mecical profession should be uniform, and that any system which so constantly tends, as does that of multiple examining bodies, to degradation of the standard, should be avoided.

(4) The Association would therefore submit that the examination in Secondary Education should be conducted by a central body, appointed by the Board of Education, and including representatives of the Universities and teaching bodies, and that on the results of examinations so conducted a Secondary Education certificate should be given.

(5) To serve the purposes of Medical Education, the Association would also submit that candidates should be required to be over 17 years of age, and that the standard prescribed for the Secondary Education Certificate should be one suitable for candidates of this age. This does not exclude the possibility of providing a lower certificate for professions for which such provision may be thought desirable.

(6) The inspection of schools contemplated in the proposals of the Consultative Committee should, in the opinion of the Association, be organized independently of the conditions of admission to the examination for the Secondary Education Certificate, in order to avoid interference with the uniformity of examination standards.

(7) A system of retrospective reports such as is proposed, especially if partly confidential, must also be regarded as quite foreign to the purpose of an examination intended to serve as the gateway to professional education, and it may be questioned whether it would not confer a most dangerous power upon the teacher, and have a perilous influence on the *morale* of the school. Testimonials of character when required have their own value, which is and should be quite separate from the results of examination.

(8) In any satisfactory system of tests for entrance on professional education, examiners and teachers should, so far as the individual candidates are concerned, be separate persons. Absolute purity is an essential condition for the acceptance of such tests, and this cannot be guaranteed unless examiner and teacher are separate.

[1] SUPPLEMENT to the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, December 3rd, 1904, p. 217. The matter was discussed during the last session of the General Medical Council.

ROYAL NAVAL AND MILITARY COMMITTEE.

November 15th, 1904.

A MEETING of the Royal Naval and Military Committee was held at the office of the Association on November 15th, 1904, when there were present: Mr. ANDREW CLARK (Chairman of Council), in the chair, Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel Decimus Curme, Lieutenant-Colonel E. F. Drake-Brockman, I.M.S. (retired), and Fleet Surgeon Lloyd Thomas, R.N. The following officers of the Indian Medical Service attended by invitation of the Committee: Lieutenant-Colonel Andrew Duncan, Lieutenant-Colonel J. F. Tuohy.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN.

The Chairman of Council was appointed Chairman for the ensuing twelve months.

NEW MEMBER.

The CHAIRMAN reported that Fleet Surgeon Lloyd Thomas, R.N., having become the representative of the Royal Navy Medical Service on the Council, became *ipso facto* a member of the Committee.

MILITIA MEDICAL SERVICE.

The GENERAL SECRETARY reported that he had communicated with the War Office, as directed by the Committee on June 30th, 1904, and that he had received a reply from the Army Council to the effect that during the war embodied Militia Medical Officers received, as an exceptional measure, rates of pay of corresponding ranks in the Royal Army Medical Corps, and that in time of peace, when officers were not liable to be separated from their units, such a concession would not be justifiable; employment otherwise than with a unit was voluntary, and it was not considered necessary to vary the terms. After discussion the Committee adopted the following resolution:

> That this Committee, having duly considered the reply of the War Office, dated August 12th, 1904, relative to the pay of officers of the Militia Medical Service, is of opinion, and strongly recommends, that in any future embodiment of the Militia, officers of the Militia Medical Service should be entitled to, and receive, the rates of pay of corresponding ranks in the R.A.M.C. as a matter of course, and not as an exceptional measure.

INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE.

It was reported that a communication had been received from the India Office stating that the representations made by the Association regarding charge allowance for station hospitals would be referred to the Government of India.

The CHAIRMAN reported that he had communicated with the medical licensing bodies with reference to the new Order of the Governor-General in Council as to fees to be paid by native princes and noblemen to officers of the Indian Medical Service, stating that the British Medical Association deplored this improper interference between the patient and the medical attendant. Replies had been received from certain corporations. The Colleges of Physicians in London, Edinburgh, and Ireland had replied to the effect that they were unable to deal with the matter; the Royal College of Surgeons of England, after stating that it was the policy of the College to abstain from interfering in questions relating to fees, added that the Council sympathized with the views held by the British Medical Association, and recognized the propriety of a body such as the Association taking the matter up. The Apothecaries' Hall of Ireland did not find itself in possession of sufficient knowledge to deal with the matter, while the replies from the Royal Colleges of Surgeons of Edinburgh and Ireland, the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, and the Society of Apothecaries of London were to the effect that the matter should have consideration.

The GENERAL SECRETARY reported that he had communicated with the India Office on this subject—that is to say, the question of fees and the violation of professional secrecy involved in the recent Order, and that he had received the following reply:

> India Office, Whitehall, London, S.W.,
> August 11th, 1904.
>
> Sir,—I am directed by Mr. Brodrick to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th July last, taking exception to the wording of a recent regulation made by the Government of India regarding the remuneration of Government medical officers for attendance on native

chiefs and nobles and native gentlemen of high position in a native State.

In reply, I am to point out that the regulation referred to was made with the express object of guarding against the disclosure of matters of a confidential nature relating to the ailments of native chiefs and their families, and that it was issued in substitution for a previous regulation which, in the opinion of the Government of India, did not sufficiently secure this object. The medical statement of the case attended is to be furnished by the medical officer to a member of his own profession, and his official superior in that profession; and the statement is to go no further, but to be used only by the Administrative Medical Officer as a guide in advising the local government as to the appropriateness of the fee proposed to be taken.

The correspondence will, however, be forwarded to the Government of India in order that it may be considered whether the wording of the regulation can be further modified so as to emphasize more strongly the strictly confidential character of the report, and to prohibit the disclosure of its details by the officer to whom it is addressed.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,
HARDWICKE.

The Secretary,
British Medical Association, 429, Strand, W.C.

HOSPITALS COMMITTEE.

December 1st, 1904.

A MEETING of the Hospitals Committee was held at the office of the Association on December 1st, 1904, when there were present: Dr. M. BEVERLEY (Chairman) in the chair, Mr. Andrew Clark (Chairman of Council), Dr. J. Brassey Brierley, Dr. E. L. Fox, Dr. John R. Hamilton, Mr. T. Garrett Horder, and Dr. F. M. Pope.

NEW MEMBERS.

Dr. Ford Anderson, Mr. E. F. White, and Dr. E. B. Hastings were added to the Committee.

HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT.

It was resolved to invite a number of laymen interested in hospital management to meet the Committee in conference, and also to invite certain members of the medical profession to attend the conference and to meet the Committee beforehand.

January 26th, 1905.

A meeting of the Hospitals Committee was held at the office of the Association on January 26th, when there were present: Dr. M. BEVERLEY (Chairman) in the chair, Dr. William Collier (President), Mr. Andrew Clark (Chairman of Council), Dr. John Ford Anderson, Dr. J. Brassey Brierley, Dr. E. Lawrence Fox, Dr. John R. Hamilton, Dr. E. B. Hastings, Dr. T. Arthur Helme, Mr. T. Garrett Horder, Mr. Edmund Owen, Dr. Frank M. Pope, and Mr. E. F. White.

HOSPITAL LETTERS.

Further correspondence with Dr. Roberts Thomson with reference to the letter system in use at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Bournemouth, was read, and the General Secretary was instructed to convey to Dr. Roberts Thomson the thanks of the Committee for his reply.

CONFERENCE ON PRINCIPLES OF HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT.

The GENERAL SECRETARY reported that in accordance with the instructions of the Committee he had invited certain members of the profession resident in various parts of the country to meet the Committee for the purpose of a preliminary discussion of the resolutions adopted by the Hospitals Committee with a view to a conference with lay representatives of hospitals. The following attended: Sir William S. Church, Bart., K.C.B., P.R.C.P., Mr. Timothy Holmes, Mr. A. W. Mayo Robson, Dr. Lauriston E. Shaw, Dr. W. Knowsley Sibley, Dr. Mary Scharlieb.

After discussion, and as the result of the opinions expressed, the principles originally formulated by the Hospitals Committee were amended and adopted as follows:

1. That inability to pay for adequate treatment shall be the consideration for the admission of all patients for hospital treatment.
2. That no charge for the treatment of any patient shall be made.
3. That the production of subscribers' letters shall cease to be compulsory, and that where possible the system shall be abolished.
4. That some means of investigation into the circumstances of the applicants for relief by means of an almoner or other agent shall be employed in all medical charities.
5. That the foregoing recommendations (resolutions Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4) apply to both in-patients and out-patients.
6. That, except in emergencies, sufficient evidence shall be obtained on two points: (*a*) that the patient is not in a position to pay for treatment; (*b*) that the case is, from a hospital point of view, suitable for treatment.
7. That all cases of serious accident and severe sudden illness shall be attended to on their first application, and, if deemed eligible for further treatment, shall be referred to the appropriate department of the hospital, but if ineligible shall then be referred for treatment elsewhere.
8. That all cases of trivial accident or illness deemed ineligible for the out-patient department shall, after having been attended to, be referred for treatment elsewhere.
9. That it is inexpedient that any patient be permitted to leave a hospital without having been seen by a registered medical practitioner.
10. That where possible the number of new cases to be seen on any one day by an honorary medical officer shall be limited.
11. That Special Hospitals shall treat only those cases that come strictly within the scope of their work.
12. That in all hospitals there shall be an age-limit for the retirement of the medical officers.

The Council was recommended to transmit the above resolutions to the conference which is to be held on Thursday, March 2nd, at 3 p.m., between lay representatives and medical representatives.

POOR-LAW SERVICE AND PROVIDENT DISPENSARIES.

The Committee adopted a resolution expressing its readiness to discuss the question of the relationship between hospitals, the Poor-law Service, and provident dispensaries, at a later date.

ANNUAL MEETING (SECTIONS) COMMITTEE.

December 16th, 1904.

A MEETING of the Committee was held at the office of the Association on December 16th, 1904, when there were present: Professor ROBERT SAUNDBY, M.D. (Chairman), in the Chair; Mr. Andrew Clark (Chairman of Council); Dr. E. Markham Skerritt (Treasurer), and Dr. W. J. Tyson.

The GENERAL SECRETARY reported the arrangements that had been made with reference to the Sections at the Annual Meeting.[1]

The Committee adopted the two following resolutions:

That the General Secretary be instructed to print on all the sectional circulars, the regulation stating that all papers read are the property of the British Medical Association, and cannot be published elsewhere than in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL without special permission.

That this Committee is of opinion that only titles of papers which have been accepted by the officers of sections, and which may reasonably be expected to be read, should be included in the programme of sectional proceedings.

Meetings of Branches and Divisions.

[*The proceedings of the Divisions and Branches of the Association relating to Scientific and Clinical Medicine, when reported by the Honorary Secretaries, are published in the body of the* JOURNAL.]

EDINBURGH BRANCH:

SOUTHERN DIVISION.

A MEETING of this Division was held in the Oddfellows' Hall, Forrest Road, on Tuesday, February 7th, at 8 15 p.m. There were present: Dr. Duddingston Wilson (Chairman), and Drs. Simla Paterson, Proudfoot, Lundie, Duncan, Abeyesinhe, and the Honorary Secretary.

Confirmation of Minutes.—The minutes of the annual and adjourned meetings were read and approved.

Apology for Absence.—An apology for unavoidable absence was received from the Vice-Chairman, Dr. Matheson.

Letters.—Letters were read from the Medical Secretary, the Bradford Division, and the Manchester Medical Guild, which the Secretary was instructed to acknowledge.

Annual Representative Meeting.—The Representative to the Representative Meetings (Dr. SIMLA PATERSON) gave in his report, and, on the motion of the CHAIRMAN, received the hearty thanks of the Division for his services.

[1] BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, December 10th, 1904, p. 1584.

Matters referred to Divisions.—The report on Contract Practice was generally approved, on the motion of Dr. LUNDIE, seconded by Dr. PROUDFOOT. The report on consultation of medical witnesses in legal cases was discussed, and the meeting adhered to its former resolution. The reports on information supplied to coroners, and on the reorganization of the Local Government Board, were laid on the table. Though not affecting Scottish Divisions, the meeting desired to give its support to the schemes, and its sympathy with the English and Welsh Divisions. The various propositions of the Revised Medical Acts Amendment Bill were unanimously approved. The meeting heartily agreed with the desire to prevent the abuse of drugs, but came to no definite decision as to the best way of carrying it out. The question of school certificates was submitted by the Secretary, and the subject was remitted to the Executive Committee to consider. Consideration of the memorandum on ambulance work was referred to next meeting.

Vote of Thanks.—The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

EAST ANGLIAN BRANCH:

WEST NORFOLK DIVISION.

A MEETING of this Division was held at the West Norfolk and Lynn Hospital on February 16th, Sir ALAN R. MANBY in the chair.

Matters Referred to Divisions.—On the question of the payment of medical practitioners called in to assist midwives (1) Dr. CHADWICK proposed and Dr. LISTER seconded the following resolution:

> That this Division considers it desirable that public provision made for the payment of medical men called in to assist midwives should, in the first instance, cover every case.

—Dr. GARDINER proposed the following amendment, which was seconded by Dr. THOMAS:

> That it was undesirable to have any public provision except the Poor-law.

The amendment was lost by a majority of one. The resolution was then carried. (2) This clause of the memorandum was unanimously considered unnecessary. (3) It was proposed by Dr. WALES, seconded by Dr. PARRY:

> That the provision should be made through the County Council.

This was carried. (4) It was proposed by Dr. CHADWICK, seconded by Dr. GARDINER, and carried unanimously:

> That in the event of the provision being through the Poor-law authorities it should be left open for any medical man whom the patient desires, and who is willing to act, to be called in.

(5) It was resolved that payment should be made by fee, and that the minimum fee be £2 2s., as per resolution of the December meeting.—In regard to the Medical Acts Amendment Bill it was proposed by Dr. GARDINER, seconded by Dr. CROSS, and carried unanimously:

> That the revised draft of this Bill be approved.

Remuneration of Post-Office Surgeons in Country Districts.—It was unanimously agreed that the fee of 8s. 6d. per head per annum, at present paid in this rural district for attendance, reports, etc., on the servants of the Post Office, was altogether inadequate. Some members present had already refused the appointment, while some others had resigned after learning the rate of remuneration. It was unanimously passed, on the motion of Dr. THOMAS, seconded by Dr. LAVER:

> That the payment should be the same as paid by the army for attendance of their men on furlough.

National Deposit Friendly Society.—It was proposed by Dr. THOMAS, seconded by Dr. RODDIS, and carried unanimously:

> That no member of this Division shall act as medical officer to the National Deposit Friendly Society, nor allow his name to be used directly or indirectly by the Society.

Tea.—The CHAIRMAN subsequently entertained the members to tea.

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE BRANCH:

ALTRINCHAM DIVISION.

A SPECIAL general meeting was held in the Board Room of the Altrincham Infirmary on Thursday, February 9th, 1905. In the absence of Dr. Joynson (Chairman) from illness, Dr. LUCKMAN (Vice-Chairman) presided. There were six letters of apology for absence.

Confirmation of Minutes.—The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as correct.

Second Representative on Branch Council.—It was unanimously agreed to make verbal alterations in Rules 4, 8, 9, and 11, to provide for a second representative on the Branch Council, and to have six elected members of Committee instead of four.

Matters Referred to Divisions.—The questions submitted by the Medico-Political Committee, as to assistance to midwives, were unanimously answered, and the answers forwarded to the General Secretary.—The recommendations as to the National Deposit Friendly Society were unanimously adopted, as were the propositions in the report on contract practice, and the considerations in the report on information to coroners.—It was unanimously resolved to ask all members of Parliament for Cheshire constituencies to support the Public Health Bill, the Revaccination Bill, and the Reorganization of the Local Government Board Bill.—The desirability of consultation between medical witnesses in legal cases was again unanimously approved.—The following resolution was unanimously carried:

> That the Altrincham Division is of opinion that the practical value of the Medical Acts Amendment Bill (as published in the SUPPLEMENT of November 26th, 1904) lies in Part V, Section XXIII; but is very doubtful whether a lay Parliament will ever give such protection to the medical profession. If Part V be passed, the Division would accept Part III, Section XI, but otherwise would strongly oppose it. The Division approves Parts I, II, and VI.

Several members having left, the following resolution was carried by a majority of 7 to 5:

> With regard to Part IV of the same Bill, in the opinion of this meeting it has not been shown that the one-portal system is a sufficient advantage to the community, or better than the present system.

Dr. LUCKMAN, in closing the meeting after a session of upwards of two hours, congratulated the members on the large attendance, on the vigorous debates, and on the importance and unanimity (save on one point) of the resolutions passed.

BURNLEY DIVISION.

A MEETING of the Division was held at Burnley on February 9th; Dr. HOLT in the chair. There were six members present.

Confirmation of Minutes.—The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Matters Referred to Divisions.—A memorandum from the Medico-Political Committee, "on the payment of medical practitioners called in to assist midwives," was considered. The answer to the questions submitted have been forwarded to the Medical Secretary. The question of information supplied to coroners was also discussed. It was unanimously resolved:

> That the last medical man in attendance upon the case should always be called as an expert witness.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH:

CITY AND TOTTENHAM DIVISIONS.

A CONJOINT meeting of these Divisions was held at the Tottenham Hospital on Thursday, February 16th, at 9.15 p.m. Dr. G. CHAPPEL presided. Mr. J. Smith Whitaker, the Medical Secretary, attended the meeting.

The Association and Medical Defence.—A discussion on the question of the present attitude and opinion of the British Medical Association on the Medical Defence scheme was opened by Mr. J. S. WHITAKER, who, in a short, interesting, able, and impartial speech, described the present position of the Association, the work it did in defence, its legal position with regard to Medical Defence, and the policy or otherwise of its taking on individual as well as collective defence.

After a brisk discussion, a resolution was proposed by Dr. MAJOR GREENWOOD and seconded by Dr. J. W. HUNT:

> That at present the British Medical Association should continue its present position of taking up matters of collective defence only, and should not undertake individual defence as well.

An amendment, proposed by Dr. FULLER and seconded:

> That the Association do now undertake individual defence as well,

was only supported by two votes. The original resolution by Dr. Greenwood was carried.

Nomination of Branch Representatives.—Drs. F. Wallace and E. Goodall were elected as delegates of the City Division, and Drs. G. Chappel and J. R. Fuller as delegates of the Tottenham Division, to meet members nominated by other Divisions at a meeting to be held in March at the Central Office, in order, if possible, to come to some arrangement that

will prove satisfactory to all the Divisions with regard to the nomination of Representatives of the Branch on the Central Council of the Association.

Hospital Abuse.—A discussion on the subject of abuse of hospitals was opened by Dr. J. S. FULLER and taken up by other members. Finally, a resolution was moved by Dr. FULLER and carried unanimously, declaring it to be the opinion of the Division—

1. That special hospitals should as much as is possible be centralized and amalgamated, and that the opening of new special hospitals should be discouraged and deprecated.
2. That a Central Board for inquiry and inspection of hospital patients should be formed, consisting of members nominated by the King's Hospital Fund, and of certain members of the medical profession, to form a Board which could carry out efficient inspection of the suitability or otherwise of applicants for hospital treatment, especially in the out-patient departments, as the present methods of inspection are quite inefficient to check the great amount of hospital abuse prevalent everywhere and which involves enormous expenditure of hospital funds for people who are not suitable applicants for such.

It was decided that this resolution should be forwarded to the Board of Control of the King's Hospital Fund.

Fees for Examination for Life Insurance.—A short discussion of fees for examination for life insurance occurred, but no resolution was taken on the matter.

STRATFORD DIVISION.

A MEETING of this Division was held on Thursday evening, February 9th, in the Alexandra Hotel, Stratford, E., at 9 p.m., Dr. GROGONO, Chairman of the Division, presiding. The following were present: Drs. Grogono, Fredericks, Beadles, Hay, Dale, Black, Taylor, Corner, Wareham, Sanders, Troup, Brown, Couzens, Stocker, Rose, and Nicoll.

Confirmation of Minutes.—The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Address.—Mr. BETHAM ROBINSON (St. Thomas's Hospital) delivered a very interesting address on some troubles in the breast, recent and remote, following pregnancy. The address was an excellent and thoroughly practical one, and was greatly appreciated. Mr. Robinson replied to a number of questions at the end, and was accorded a hearty vote of thanks.

Annual Representative Meeting.—Dr. PERCY ROSE then presented his report on the annual meeting of the Association, which had been unavoidably held back from a previous meeting. He gave in clear and terse language a very lucid and comprehensive summary of all the business of importance transacted at the Oxford meeting, and received the thanks of the Division.

Medical Practitioners and Midwives.—The meeting thereafter considered the memorandum submitted to the Division by the Medico-Political Committee on the payment of medical practitioners called in to assist midwives, and after considerable discussion it was decided to postpone coming to any decision until the matter had been fully discussed at the next meeting.

SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE BRANCH:

SOUTH-WEST WALES DIVISION.

A SPECIAL meeting of the South-West Wales Division was held at the Ivy Bush Hotel, Carmarthen, on Wednesday, December 7th, 1904, Mr. D. J. WILLIAMS in the chair. A meeting of the Executive Committee was held first.

Election of Member of Branch Council.—The Chairman (Mr. D. J. Williams) was unanimously elected.

Post-Office Appointments.—A report from the Medical Secretary upon Post-Office appointments and South Wales Clerks' Association appointments was read. The following resolutions, proposed by Dr. HOPKIN, seconded by Dr. OWEN WILLIAMS, were carried:

That members be allowed to accept the appointments recently offered, but only for attendance upon employés living within a radius of two miles from the post-office.

That all medical men living within the area of the Division be notified to that effect.

It was proposed by Dr. COOKE, seconded by Dr. NAUNTON DAVIES, and resolved:

That this Division does not approve of the scale of pay by the South Wales Clerks' Association as offered, nor of the principle that would justify the extension of contract practice to others than working men.

Matters Referred to Divisions.—In regard to the question of information to be given by medical practitioners to coroners, it was proposed by Dr. R. D. EVANS, and resolved:

That no information, upon which decisions as to the propriety o holding inquests may be based, be given to coroners or the police without a fee of 10s. 6d.

It was agreed that these resolutions be formally placed before the meeting at Whitland in March, to be adopted under Clause A of Bradford Rules.

Votes of Thanks.—A vote of thanks to Mr. Smith Whitaker for his lucid report was proposed by the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Dr. HOPKIN, and carried unanimously.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH:

DOVER DIVISION.

A MEETING of this Division was held on January 19th, at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Dover, Dr. PARSONS in the chair. There were present Drs. Best, Larking, Robinson, Dodd, and F. A. Osborn (Honorary Secretary).

Confirmation of Minutes.—The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Matters Referred to Divisions.—The memorandum on the Payment of Medical Practitioners called in to assist Midwives was discussed. The conclusions arrived at have been transmitted to the Medico-Political Committee. On the agenda were the other matters referred to the Divisions, but considering the small attendance of the members the meeting was adjourned, so that all the members might have an opportunity of discussing them at an evening meeting to be held shortly.

SYDNEY AND NEW SOUTH WALES BRANCH.

THE regular monthly meeting of this Branch was held at the Royal Society's Rooms, on November 25th, 1904. Dr. SCOTT SKIRVING was in the chair, and 41 members were present.

Confirmation of Minutes.—The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

New Member.—The CHAIRMAN announced the election of Dr. Lethbridge of Royal Prince Alfred Hospital.

Communications.—Dr. W. H. READ exhibited a patient suffering from Friedreich's disease and read notes on the case.—Dr. VALLACK read a paper on some problems in asepsis: (1) Wound infections of high virulence; (2) the sterilization of catgut.—Dr. HINDER (for Dr. LETHBRIDGE) read a paper on the results of six months' surgical work at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital.—Dr. WORRALL exhibited a sterilizer. A discussion ensued in which Drs. HINDER, MCKAY, BOWKER, HANKINS, WORRALL, LEAHY, CORLETTE, GORDON CRAIG, and CRAGO took part. Dr. VALLACK replied.

Next Meeting.—The CHAIRMAN announced that the next meeting of the Branch would be held on Friday, December 16th, 1904.

THE regular monthly meeting of the Branch was held at the Royal Society's Room on December 16th, 1904, Dr. MACCORMICK, President, in the chair. There were thirty-four members present.

Confirmation of Minutes.—The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

New Members.—The PRESIDENT announced the election of Drs. Kuipers and Bobardt.

Communications.—Dr. NEWMARCH exhibited a patient suffering from nevus of face, and explained the treatment of the case. Drs. W. H. READ, WADE, and MACCORMICK made some remarks upon the case, and Dr. NEWMARCH replied.—Drs. LITCHFIELD and HIPSLEY read a paper on the relation of Shiga's bacillus to the summer diarrhoea of infants. A discussion ensued, in which Drs. FLASHMAN, MILLARD, SINCLAIR GILLIES, BINNEY, and WADE took part; Dr. LITCHFIELD replied.—Dr. CORLETTE read a paper—a review of the subject of starch digestion in young infants. Dr. LITCHFIELD made some remarks on the case, and Dr. CORLETTE replied.

Widows' and Orphans' Fund.—Dr. HANKINS moved that this meeting approves of the formation of a medical practitioners' widows' and orphans' fund. Dr. J. A. DICK seconded the resolution, which was carried.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS.

ANY candidate for election should forward his application upon a form, which will be furnished on application to the General Secretary of the Association, 429, Strand.

YORKSHIRE BRANCH:
HARROGATE DIVISION AND RICHMOND AND NORTHALLERTON DIVISIONS.

A COMBINED meeting of these Divisions was held at the Prospect Hotel, Harrogate, on December 15th, 1904, Dr. LIDDELL in the chair.

Matters Referred to Divisions.—The report on information supplied to coroners by medical practitioners was considered, and the resolutions of the Medico-Political Committee of the British Medical Association were unanimously approved of. The memorandum with regard to the reorganization of the Local Government Board was unanimously approved of, and it was resolved:

> That a Royal Commission be appointed to consider public health administration.

The Medical Acts Amendment Bill was considered and Sections A, B, and C were approved of unanimously.

Dinner.—The meeting was then adjourned and the members dined together.

Adjourned Meeting.—The adjourned meeting was held on January 19th.

One-Portal System.—The one-portal system was approved of unanimously.

Annual Certificate for Practitioners.—The following resolution was passed:

> That in place of further mulcting the profession, the General Medical Council should grant an annual certificate at a small charge, and that the General Medical Council, in consideration thereof, should protect the registered medical practitioner against persons illegally practising for gain, to the great danger of the public.

This was carried unanimously.

Spectacle Makers and Sight Testing.—The recommendation of the Medico-Political Committee of the British Medical Association—

> That the Association should express its disapproval of the proposal of the Spectacle Makers Company on sight testing as being fraught with special risk to the public—

was approved of.

Arrangement of Divisions.—A proposal that in the arrangement of the Divisions of the British Medical Association individual members be permitted to join the Division most convenient to themselves was carried unanimously.

Abuse of Drugs.—It was resolved that the report on prevention of the abuse of drugs be adopted, with the following addition to Recommendation A:

> That the prescription be not dispensed to any other person than the person prescribed for.

Association Notices.

BRANCH AND DIVISION MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

BIRMINGHAM BRANCH: COVENTRY DIVISION.—The next meeting of this Division will be held at the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital, on Tuesday, March 7th, at 8.30 p.m. Agenda: 1. Mr. W. E Bennett will read a paper on rickets. 2. Dr. Kendrick will move the following resolution: That it is hereby resolved that no member of the profession in the area of the Division shall act as medical officer to a Friendly Society at a less remuneration than 4s. per member per annum; that the Division, in interpreting this rule, will consider that any return or donation of any kind to the society or any officer of the society is an infringement of the rule; that no member of the medical profession in the Division take over or apply for any club appointment during the time the present holder is applying for an increase in the salary. 3. Matters referred to the Division: (*a*) Interim report on contract practice; the recommendations of the Committee on the report will be moved by Dr J. Orton (SUPPLEMENT, November 26th, 1904, p. 179). (*b*) The Medical Act Amendment Bill will be explained by the Secretary, and resolutions thereon will be dealt with (SUPPLEMENT, November 26th, 1904, p. 183).—E. H. SNELL, Coventry, Honorary Secretary.

EAST ANGLIAN BRANCH: SOUTH ESSEX DIVISION.—The next meeting will be held at the Victoria Hospital, Southend-on-Sea, on Thursday, March 2nd, at 4 p.m. Business: Cases will be shown by Dr. Waters, Dr. Leonard, Dr. Walker, Dr. Bluck, and Dr. Raper. Dr. J. T. C. Nash will read a paper on Some Points of Interest in Infectious Disease. Consideration of Memorandum enclosed. Memorandum in BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL SUPPLEMENT of February 4th. Remaining items of Memorandum partially considered at last meeting. Members are requested to preserve SUPPLEMENTS and bring them to the meeting.—W. CARDY BLUCK, Honorary Secretary.

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE BRANCH: NORTH MANCHESTER DIVISION.—A meeting of the members of the above Division will be held at the Palatine Hotel, Manchester, in the Clinical Society's rooms, at 4.15 p.m. on Thursday, March 2nd. Agenda: To consider (1) A communication from the West Manchester Division *re* Ancoats Hospital. (2) Medical Acts Amendment Bill (SUPPLEMENT of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL for November 26th, 1904). (3) Prevention of drug abuse (SUPPLEMENT, November 26th, 1904). (4) Memorandum *re* payment of medical practitioners called in to assist midwives. (5) Report on National Deposit Friendly Society (SUPPLEMENT, January 14th, 1905). (6) Public Health and Revaccination Bill. (7) Other business.—R. G. MCGOWAN, Honorary Secretary of the Division.

LEINSTER BRANCH.—The annual general meeting will be held in the Royal College of Physicians, Kildare Street, Dublin, on Saturday, February 25th, at 4.30 p.m.—Professor WHITE, Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, Dublin.

NORTH OF ENGLAND BRANCH: NORTH NORTHUMBERLAND DIVISION.—A special meeting of the above will be held on Tuesday, February 28th, at the residence of Dr. Charles Fraser, Elder House, Ravensdowne, Berwick-on-Tweed, at 2.30 p.m., for the consideration and adoption of new rules suggested by the Northumberland Committee of the North of England Branch of the British Medical Association. The usual quarterly meeting will be held immediately afterwards. Business: 1. Confirmation of minutes. 2. Consideration of memorandum from Medico-Political Committee. 3. Any other business.—B. B. ROBSON, Alnwick, Secretary.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: BRIGHTON DIVISION.—A meeting will be held at the Dispensary, 113, Queen's Road, Brighton, at 4 30 p.m., on the fourth Wednesday in March (22nd), April (26th), May (24th), June (28th), annual meeting, October (25th), November (22nd). Members wishing to read papers or show cases at the meetings are requested to give at least a fortnight's notice to the Honorary Secretary, RYDING MARSH, M.D., 49, Sackville Road, Hove.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: FOLKESTONE DIVISION.—A meeting of this Division will be held at the house of Dr. Perry, 1, Castle Hill Avenue, on Friday, March 3rd, at 8 30 p m. Agenda: Minutes. Correspondence. Letters. Paper: The Work of the Association, by Dr. P. Vernon Dodd. The question of dividing the South-Eastern Branch, as proposed by Dr. Larking. Proposed ethical rules. To discuss matters recommended by the Executive Committee regarding contract practice. Matters referred to the Divisions by the Representative Meeting. All Members of the South Eastern Branch are invited to attend, and to introduce professional friends.—P. VERNON DODD, 14, Manor Road, Folkestone, Honorary Secretary.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: NORWOOD DIVISION.—The next meeting of this Division will be held at the Queen's Hotel, Upper Norwood, on Thursday, March 9th, at 4 p.m.; J. H. Galton, M.D., of Upper Norwood, in the chair. Dinner at 6 p.m.; charge 7s., exclusive of wine.

AGENDA.

1. Minutes of last meeting.
2. To decide when and where the next meeting shall be held, and to nominate a member of the Division to take the chair thereat.
3. Report of the South London King's College Hospital Committee. (This report was published in the SUPPLEMENT for February 18th, p. 52.)
4. Consideration of various matters referred from Medico-Political Committee (see SUPPLEMENT to the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, November 26th, 1904; members are requested to bring this to the meeting):
(*a*) The Interim Report on Contract Practice.
(*b*) Consultation between Medical Witnesses.
(*c*) Memorandum *re* Information to Coroners.
(*d*) The Report on Reorganization of the Local Government Board.
(*e*) Memorandum *re* Drug Abuse.
(*f*) Memorandum on the Payment of Medical Practitioners called in to assist Midwives (Memorandum enclosed).

The following papers, etc., will be read: Dr. Pye-Smith: Auscultation of the Chest and its relation to General Symptoms. Mr. E. M. Corner: Common Causes of Failure in Surgical Proceedings. Dr. Mercier: A Problem in Diagnosis. Members desirous of exhibiting specimens or reading notes of cases are invited to communicate at once with the Honorary Secretary. All members of the South-Eastern Branch are invited to attend and to introduce professional friends, but will be unable to vote on Divisional questions.—HENRY J. PRANGLEY, Honorary Secretary; ARTHUR W. SOPER, Assistant Honorary Secretary.

SOUTH MIDLAND BRANCH.—The Council of this Branch will meet at Franklin's Restaurant, Guildhall Road, Northampton, on Tuesday, March 7th, at 3.30 p.m.—E. HAINES JONES, Secretary, Northampton.

SOUTH-WESTERN BRANCH.—The next meeting of this Branch will be held at the Red Lion Hotel, Truro, on Thursday, March 2nd, at 3 p.m., the President, Dr. J. Alexander, in the chair. The following communications are already promised:—Mr. G. C. Wilkin: Syphilitic Laryngitis. Mr. C. Hamilton Whiteford: (1) Intravenous Injection of Saline Solution in Haemorrhage, Shock, and Sepsis. (2) Old-standing Rectal Incontinence cured by Perineorrhaphy and Suture of the Anal Sphincter. Mr. M. E. Taylor: Notes on an Unclassified Infectious Disease in Children; and an Anomalous Exanthem.—G. YOUNG EALES, 1, Matlock Terrace, Torquay, Honorary Secretary.

CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

A MEETING of the Central Midwives Board was held on February 16th, at 6, Suffolk Street, Pall Mall, with Dr. F. H. CHAMPNEYS in the chair.

POOR-LAW INFIRMARIES AS TRAINING SCHOOLS FOR MIDWIVES.

Miss J. WILSON proposed, and Dr. C. J. CULLINGWORTH seconded, a resolution to the effect that the Secretary of the Central Midwives Board should write to the Local Government Board asking for a copy of all printed instructions and circulars issued by the Local Government Board dealing with the question of midwifery nurses. Miss Wilson explained that she particularly wished to procure a copy of a certain

circular issued by the Local Government Board at the time Sir Walter Foster was Parliamentary Secretary to the Local Government Board, in which it was clearly laid down that the Local Government Board recognized the medical officers in infirmaries as responsible in regard to births, midwives being recognized and described as midwifery nurses.

Mr. PARKER YOUNG said he saw no use in writing to the Local Government Board. The Central Midwives Board had to carry out a certain Act, and had nothing to do with circulars issued by the Local Government Board, which, after all, merely amounted to suggestions; and the circular particularly referred to by Miss Wilson was sent out years before the Act of Parliament was passed which the Central Midwives Board had to carry out. If the suggested letter were sent to the Local Government Board, it would look as if some special arrangement was to be made in regard to the midwives in the Poor-law infirmaries; but all the midwives in the kingdom must be treated by the Central Midwives Board in the same way, and no distinction was possible between Poor-law institutions and any other institution. The Local Government Board knew the rules of the Central Midwives Board, and his advice to his colleagues was to remember that it was unwise to bark unless you were prepared to bite.

With the consent of the Board, Miss Wilson's proposition was withdrawn.

It was then moved by Dr. CULLINGWORTH, seconded by Miss WILSON, and carried:

> That no Poor-law infirmary should be approved as a training school for midwives unless the average number of deliveries reached not less than 75 per annum—that is, sufficient to ensure the necessary number of cases for training at least 3 pupils.

On the motion of Miss R. PAGET, seconded by Mr. PARKER YOUNG, it was decided that no application from a Poor-law institution to be approved as a training school for midwives should be entertained unless it was in the form of an official communication from the Board of Guardians concerned and signed by the Clerk of the Board.

Naval and Military Appointments.

ROYAL NAVY MEDICAL SERVICE.

THE following appointments have been made at the Admiralty: EVELYN R. H. POLLARD, Inspector-General, and STANDISH T. O'GRADY, Deputy-Inspector-General, to the Royal Naval Hospital at Chatham, February 16th; JAMES PORTER, M.D., C.B., Deputy-Inspector-General, to Gibraltar Hospital, March 1st; HORACE ELLIOTT, M.D., Fleet Surgeon, and FRED. C. B. GITTINGS, M.B., Surgeon, to the *Hannibal*, on recommissioning, February 28th; JOHN MCELWEE, M.D., Fleet Surgeon, to the *Empress of India*, February 28th; FREDERICK J. BURNS, M.D., Fleet Surgeon, to the *Bacchante*, February 23rd; RICHARD F. BATE, Staff Surgeon, to the *President*, for three months' course of hospital study, February 17th; KENNETH H. JONES, M.B., Surgeon, to Hong Kong Hospital, March 1st; JOHN A. L. CAMPBELL, Surgeon, to the *President*, for three months' hospital course, February 20th; CHARLES S. FACEY, M.B., Staff Surgeon, to the *Europa*, March 4th; THOMAS D. HALAHAN, M.B., Staff Surgeon, and EDMUND COX, M.B., Surgeon, to the *Diadem*, March 4th; HENRY J. HADDEN, M.B. Fleet Surgeon, to the *Renown*, on commissioning, with nucleus crew, February 21st; MALCOLM CAMERON, M.B., Surgeon, to the *Pembroke*, additional (lent to Chatham Hospital), February 21st; THOMAS W. MYLES, M.B., Surgeon, to the *Vivid*, additional (lent to the Royal Marine Infirmary at Plymouth); ARCHIBALD D. SPALDING, Surgeon, to the *Vernon*, additional, for the *Niger*, February 21st; EUSTACE ARKWRIGHT, Surgeon, to the *Flora*, February 21st.

Staff Surgeons L. BIDWELL, E. H. DE COURTMACSHERRY, M.D., W. J. BEARBLOCK, W. HACKETT, M.D., C. G. MATTHEW, M.B., T. AUSTEN, and J. CHAMBERS, M.B., are promoted to be Fleet Surgeons, February 21st. Their commissions as Surgeon bear date February 21st, 1889; as Staff Surgeon, February 21st, 1897. Fleet Surgeon MATTHEW, as Surgeon of the *Sparrow*, was present at the bombardment of the Sultan of Zanzibar's Palace in 1896. The other officers cited have no war record.

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. MAGILL, M.D., C.B., is promoted to be Colonel, *vice* A. H. Anthonisz, retired, December 22nd, 1904. Full particulars of the commissions and war services of Colonel Magill were given in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of January 14th.

Lieutenant-Colonel H. R. WHITEHEAD, F.R.C.S.Eng., is also promoted to be Colonel, *vice* J. M. BEAMISH, retired, January 26th. Colonel Whitehead was appointed Surgeon, July 29th, 1882; Surgeon-Major, July 29th, 1894; and Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel, May 20th, 1891. He served in the campaign on the North-West Frontier of India in 1897-8 with the Tirah Expeditionary Force, and was at the action at Dargai, the capture of the Sampagha and Arhanga Passes, and in the operations against the Kham Khel Chamkannis, and in the Bara Valley (mentioned in dispatches, promoted to be Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel, medal with two clasps).

The undermentioned Lieutenants, appointed on probation from the dates specified, are confirmed in that rank: D. D. PATON, M.B., J. A. LONGLEY, M.B., and N. E. DUNKERTON, August 31st, 1903; S. C. BOWLE and G. S. C. HAYES, January 30th, 1904; C. RYLEY, P. DWYER, M.B., P. C. T. DAVY, M.B., W. H. HILLS, M.B., J. F. C. MACKENZIE, M.B., H. T. WILSON, R. C. HALLOWES, M.B., J. CAMPBELL, M.B., G. A. D. HARVEY, H. C. WINCKWORTH, H. W. RUSSELL, M.B., E. J. H. LUXMOORE, H. C. SIDGWICK, M.B., M. SINCLAIR, M.B., G. R. PAINTON, N. LOW, A. H. FRASER, M.B., R. H. L. CORDNER, A. T. FROST, M.B., K. A. C. DOIG, P. A. JONES, H. O. M. BEADNELL, C. R. MILLAR, G. H. RICHARDS, and J. St. A. MAUGHAN, July 30th, 1904.

The undermentioned gentlemen are appointed Lieutenants on probation, dated January 31st: CHARLES P. THOMSON, M.D., GEORGE W. HERON, ROBERT J. B. BUCHANAN, GEORGE B. F. CHURCHILL, WILLIAM S. NEALOR, JAMES E. HOAR, RICHARD G. MEREDITH, M.B., FREDERICK E. ROBERTS, GEORGE S. WALLACE, M.B., WILFRED PARSONS, ARTHUR A. MCNEIGHT, M.B., ERNEST B. BOOTH, M.D., THOMAS H. GIBBON, M.D., RICHARD J. C. THOMPSON, ERNEST G. R. LITHGOW, PIERCE POWER, M.B., CHARLES W. O'BRIEN, RYDER P. NASH, JAMES S. PASCOE, CECIL D. M. HOLBROOKE, JOHN M. B. RAHILLY, M.B., GEORGE G. TABUTEAU, RICHARD E. HUMFREY, WILLIAM G. MAYDON, M.B., GARFIELD ORMROD, M.B.

Lieutenants G. W. HERON, J. M. B. RAHILLY, M.B., and R. J. C. THOMPSON are seconded under the provisions of Article 349, Royal Warrant for Pay and Promotion, October 26th, 1900, dated January 31st.

CHANGES OF STATION.

THE following changes of station amongst the officers of the Royal Army Medical Corps have been officially reported to have taken place during last month:

	From.	To.
Surg.-Gen. W. J. Fawcett, M.B., C.B.	Irish Comd.	War Office.
,, J. D. Edge, M.D., C.B.	South Africa	Irish Comd.
,, W. Donovan, C.B.	Salisb'ry Plain	South Africa.
Colonel G. D. N. Leake	Bombay	Oudh.
,, F. W. Trevor, M.B.	Poona	Bombay.
,, W. A. May, C.B.	Egypt	Salisb'ry Plain.
Lieut.-Col. W. J. Macnamara, M.D.	—	O. R. Colony.
,, J. Gibson, M.B.	Cork	Templemore.
,, Sir A. A Brooke-Pechell, M.B.	Belfast	Portsmouth.
Major F. W. G. Hall, M.B.	Chester	Manchester.
,, J. S. Davidson, M.B.	Madras	Portsmouth.
,, H. W. Austin	Templemore	Bombay.
,, G. Bent	Warwick	Bengal.
,, T. B. Beach	Bengal	Chatham.
,, C. A. Stone, M.D.	Bombay	Dover.
,, H. E. Winter	Cardiff	Bombay.
,, G. A. T. Bray	Newport	Bengal.
,, C. Dalton	Curragh	Punjab.
,, F. J. Wade-Brown	Portsmouth	Gosport.
,, H. W. K. Read	Belfast	Madras.
Captain J. B. Anderson	Shorncliffe	Bengal.
,, R. J. Blackham	Bulford	R.A.M. Coll.
,, P. J. Probyn, D.S.O.	—	,,
,, S. A. Archer	Dublin	Belfast.
,, H. Hewetson	R.A.M. Coll.	Dover.
,, R. E. G. Phillips	South Africa	R.A.M. Coll.
,, J. M'D. M'Carthy, M.B.	R.A.M. Coll.	Chester.
,, J. Poe, M.B.	Dublin	Newbridge.
,, A. W. N. Bowen	R.A.M. Coll.	Chester.
,, W. H. S. Nickerson, M.B., V.C.	Salisb'ry Plain	R.A.M. Coll.
,, E. T. Inkson, V.C.	Portsmouth	,,
,, H. G. Martin	R.A.M. Coll.	Dublin.
,, F. F. Carroll, M.B.	,,	Devonport.
,, J. D. G. Macpherson, M.B.	,,	Portsmouth.
,, S. D. C. O'Grady, M.B.	,,	Dublin.
,, A. H. O. Young	,,	Chester.
,, A. C. Lupton, M.B.	Hounslow	York.
,, G. B. Carter, M.B.	R.A.M. Coll.	Madras.
,, P. H. Collingwood	,,	Dublin.
,, C. J. O'Gorman, D.S.O.	South Africa	R.A.M. Coll.
,, G. B. Crisp	Netley	,,
,, S. O. Hall	R.A.M. Coll.	Madras.
,, A. E. Weld	,,	Devonport.
,, A. E. Thorp	Portsmouth	R.A.M. Coll.
,, H. Merrick	Deepcut	,,
,, E. J. Dobbin	Aldershot	,,
,, L. E. L. Parker	Hong Kong	,,
,, M. H. G. Fell	Transvaal	,,
,, W. B. Winkfield	Portsmouth	,,
,, H. D. Packer	Dublin	Cork.
,, H. K. Palmer	,,	,,
,, F. J. Palmer	Edinburgh	R.A.M. Coll.
,, W. A. Woodside	Straits Settmt.	,,
,, W. R. Blackwell	Bengal	,,
,, H. M. Nicholls, M.B.	R.A.M. Coll.	Dublin.
,, A. Chopping	Home District.	Windsor.
,, O. W. A. Elsner	Punjab	R.A.M. Coll.
,, H. S. Anderson	Madras	,,
,, L. W. LLoyd	R.A.M. Coll.	Portsmouth.
,, E. P. Connolly	Bengal	R.A.M. Coll.
,, M. H. Babington	Madras	,,
,, H. H. Norman	Woolwich	,,
,, H. S. Roch	Bengal	,,
,, F. Harvey	Malta	,,
,, F. H. Merry, M.B.	Natal	O. R. Colony.
,, H. C. R. Hime, M.B.	Netley	R.A.M. Coll.
,, C. S. Smith, M.B.	R.A.M. Coll.	Madras.
,, C. S. Cato	Transvaal	Chester.
,, F. S. Walker	Fermoy	Punjab.
,, H. F. Shea, M.B.	Mauritius	Salisb'ry Plain
,, P. S. Lelean	—	Aldershot.
,, O. Challis	R.A.M. Coll.	Malta.
,, H. H. Scott, M.B.	O. R. Colony	Natal.
Lieutenant J. E. Powell	Woolwich	Bengal.
,, O. Ievers, M.B.	Cape Colony	St. Helena.
,, H. C. Hildreth	Longmoor	Madras.
,, A. C. Osburn	Portsmouth	Bengal.
,, F. H. Noke, M.B.	Aldershot	Madras.
,, W. F. H. Vaughan	,,	,,
,, R. B. Hole, M.B.	Woolwich	Bombay.
,, T. C. Lucas	Aldershot	,,
,, G. E. Cathcart	,,	Punjab.
,, H. Harding, M.B.	Woolwich	Bombay.
,, M. F. Grant	,,	,,
,, F. J. Garland, M.B.	Netley	Bombay.
,, H. B. Connell	Woolwich	King's Af. Rifl.

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS (MILITIA).

JOHN C. M'CARROLL, M.B., is appointed Lieutenant, February 18th.

INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL G. BOMFORD, M.D., C.I.E., Bengal Establishment, to be Surgeon-General, from January 1st. His appointment as Director-General, Indian Medical Service, was announced in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of January 28th, where particulars of his commissions and war services are also given.

Colonel W. R. BROWNE, M.D., Madras Establishment, is gazetted to be Surgeon-General from October 11th, 1904, as stated in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of December 31st last.

Lieutenant-Colonel P. H. BENSON, M.B., Madras Establishment, is also promoted to be Surgeon-General, from October 11th, 1904. Particulars referring to Surgeon-General Benson are also to be found in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of December 31st.

Lieutenant-Colonel J. MCCLOGHRY, Bombay Establishment, is granted the temporary rank of Colonel while officiating as Principal Medical Officer, Kurrachee Brigade, from November 28th, 1904.

The following are appointed Lieutenants from September 1st, 1904: HORACE S. MATSON, DONALD STEEL, FRANCIS H. STEWART, HAMPTON A. DOUGAN, ALEXANDER CAMERON, ALFRED H. PROCTOR, ROBERT T. WELLS, IAN M. MACRAE, CHARLES C. C. SHAW, RODERICK D. MACGREGOR, JAMES W. H. BABINGTEN, ALEXANDER S. M. PEEBLES, FRANCIS B. SHETTLE.

The surname of Lieutenant C. I. BRIERLEY, whose admission to the Indian Medical Service was notified in the *London Gazette* of February 5th, 1904, is as here given, and not as in that *Gazette*.

The retirement from the service of Surgeon-General Sir B. FRANKLIN, K.C.I.E., K.H.P., which has been already announced in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, has received the approval of the King.

IMPERIAL YEOMANRY.

SURGEON-LIEUTENANT W. F. L. A. HOLCROFT, M.B., Royal North Devon (Hussars), is seconded for service under the Colonial Office, January 21st.

Surgeon-Captain H. KELLY, M.D., Lanarkshire (Queen's Own Royal Glasgow) Regiment, to be Surgeon-Major, February 18th.

ROYAL GARRISON ARTILLERY (VOLUNTEERS).

THE following announcement is substituted for that which appeared in the *London Gazette* of January 3rd: Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel D. S. DAVIES, M.D., 1st Gloucestershire, resigns his commission, and is granted the honorary rank of Surgeon-Colonel, retaining his uniform, January 4th.

VOLUNTEER RIFLES.

SURGEON-LIEUTENANT-COLONEL G. WESTBY (Brigade Surgeon Lieutenant-Colonel, Senior Medical Officer, Liverpool Volunteer Infantry Brigade), 2nd Volunteer Battalion the King's (Liverpool Regiment), is granted the honorary rank of Surgeon-Colonel, February 18th.

Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel J. S. MUIR, M.B., 1st Roxburgh and Selkirk (the Border) Regiment, resigns his commission, and is granted the honorary rank of Surgeon-Colonel, February 18th; he retains his uniform.

Mr. RALPH R. BRUNSKILL is appointed Surgeon-Lieutenant in the 2nd Volunteer Battalion the Prince of Wales's Volunteers (South Lancashire Regiment), February 18th.

Surgeon-Major A. CLARK (Brigade Surgeon Lieutenant-Colonel, Senior Medical Officer, 3rd London Volunteer Infantry Brigade), 4th Middlesex (West London), to be Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel, August 23rd, 1893.

Surgeon-Captain S. NESFIELD, 5th (Ardwick) Volunteer Battalion the Manchester Regiment, to be Surgeon-Major, February 18th.

Surgeon-Lieutenant J. MACLENNAN, M.B., 1st Sutherland (the Sutherland Highland), resigns his commission, February 18th.

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS (VOLUNTEERS).

Mr. WILLIAM DARLING is appointed Lieutenant in the Edinburgh Company, February 18th.

CORRECTION.

THE name of Honorary Surgeon-Colonel W. Draper, 1st East Riding of Yorkshire Royal Garrison Artillery (Volunteers), is as now printed, and not as published last week, p. 53.

Vital Statistics.

HEALTH OF ENGLISH TOWNS.

IN seventy-six of the largest English towns, including London, 8,809 births and 5,189 deaths were registered during the week ending Saturday last, February 18th. The annual rate of mortality in these towns, which had been 18.4, 18.0, and 17.4 per 1,000 in the three preceding weeks, further declined last week to 17.3 per 1,000. The rates in the several towns ranged from 7.1 in Aston Manor, 7.5 in King's Norton, 7.6 in Handsworth (Staffs), 8.3 in Coventry, 9.3 in Hornsey, 10.5 in Leyton, 10.8 in Smethwick, 11.0 in East Ham, and 11.2 in Walthamstow, to 24.1 in West Hartlepool, 24.7 in Merthyr Tydfil, 25.8 in Ipswich, 25.9 in Stockton-on-Tees, 26.1 in Preston, 28.2 in Hanley, 30.5 in Portsmouth, and 35.0 in Rhondda. In London the rate of mortality was 16.8 per 1,000, while it averaged 17.6 per 1,000 in the seventy-five other large towns. The death-rate from the principal infectious diseases averaged 1.4 per 1,000 in the seventy-six towns; in London this death-rate was equal to 1.1 per 1,000, while among the seventy-five other large towns the rates ranged upwards to 3.0 in Stockton-on-Tees, 3.2 in Preston, 3.4 in Reading, 3.5 in Merthyr Tydfil, 3.8 in South Shields, 4.0 in Hanley, 9.9 in Portsmouth, and 5.4 in Nottingham. Measles caused a death-rate of 1.3 in Gateshead, 1.4 in Southampton and in Cardiff, 1.8 in Leyton, 2.0 in Stockton-on-Tees, 2.1 in Merthyr Tydfil, 2.7 in Reading, 3.3 in Nottingham, and 3.6 in Portsmouth; scarlet fever of 1.4 in Merthyr Tydfil; diphtheria of 1.1 in Salford, 1.4 in Coventry, and 2.2 in Swansea; whooping-cough of 1.2 in Wigan and in Hull, 1.3 in Rhondda, 1.7 in Rotherham, 1.9 in Halifax and in South Shields, 2.7 in Preston, and 3.2 in Hanley; and diarrhoea of 1.8 in Bury. The mortality from "fever" showed no marked excess in any of the large towns. One fatal case of small-pox was registered in London and 1 in Bradford, but none in any other of the large towns. The Metropolitan Asylums Hospitals contained 8 small-pox patients on Saturday last, February 18th, against 15, 13, and 9 on the three preceding Saturdays; 3 new cases were admitted during the week, against 1 in each of the two preceding weeks. The number of scarlet fever cases remaining under treatment in these hospitals and in the London Fever Hospital, which had been 2,096, 2,070, and 2,077 at the end of the three preceding weeks, had declined again to 2,016 at the end of last week; 241 new cases were admitted during the week, against 251, 220, and 260 in the three preceding weeks.

HEALTH OF SCOTCH TOWNS.

DURING the week ending Saturday last, February 18th, 880 births and 633 deaths were registered in eight of the principal Scotch towns. The annual rate of mortality in these towns, which had been 20.3, 19.9, and 18.2 per 1,000 in the three preceding weeks, increased again to 18.9 per 1,000 last week, and was 1.6 per 1,000 above the mean rate during the same period in the seventy-six large English towns. The rates in the eight Scotch towns ranged from 12.8 in Leith and 16.3 in Edinburgh and in Greenock, to 22.2 in Dundee and 24.4 in Perth. The death-rate from the principal infectious diseases averaged 1.6 per 1,000 in these towns, the highest rates being recorded in Glasgow and Leith. The 305 deaths registered in Glasgow included 3 which were referred to measles, 20 to whooping-cough, 3 to enteric fever, and 6 to diarrhoea. Four fatal cases of whooping-cough were recorded in Edinburgh; 2 of diarrhoea in Dundee; 3 of typhus in Aberdeen; and 3 of diarrhoea in Leith.

HEALTH OF IRISH TOWNS.

DURING the week ending Saturday, February 11th, 502 births and 419 deaths were registered in six of the principal Irish towns, against 631 births and 389 deaths in the preceding period. The mean annual death-rate in these towns, which had been 18.8, 23.5, and 22.8 per 1,000 in the three preceding weeks, fell to 20.1 per 1,000 in the week under notice, this figure being 2.7 per 1,000 higher than the mean annual rate in the seventy-six English towns for the corresponding period. The figures ranged from 11.7 in Waterford and 12.3 in Limerick to 25.2 in Dublin and 27.4 in Cork. The zymotic death-rate during the same period and in the same six Irish towns averaged 1.0 per 1,000, or 0.1 per 1,000 lower than during the preceding week, the highest figure, 2.5, being recorded in Londonderry, while Limerick and Cork registered no deaths under this heading at all. The deaths from measles exhibited a further general fall, but 9 occurred in Belfast. In Dublin 2 deaths were recorded from scarlet fever.

Vacancies and Appointments.

This list of vacancies is compiled from our advertisement columns, where full particulars will be found. To ensure notice in this column advertisements must be received not later than the first post on Wednesday morning.

VACANCIES.

BETHNAL GREEN INFIRMARY.—Assistant Medical Officer, resident. Salary, £100 per annum.

BIRKENHEAD BOROUGH HOSPITAL.—Two Assistant Honorary Medical Officers.

CARLISLE: CUMBERLAND INFIRMARY.—Resident Medical Officer to act as House-Physician and House-Surgeon for six months each. Salary, £80 and £100 per annum respectively.

CHELTENHAM GENERAL HOSPITAL.—(1) Junior House-Surgeon, resident. (2) Surgeon-in-Charge of Branch Dispensary. Salary, £50 and £90 per annum respectively.

CITY OF LONDON HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES OF THE CHEST, Victoria Park, E.—Two House-Physicians (male); resident. Salary at the rate of £30 per annum each.

DURHAM COUNTY HOSPITAL.—House-Surgeon, resident. Salary, £120 per annum.

EAST LONDON HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN, Shadwell.—(1) Medical for Casualty Department. Salary at the rate of £100 per annum. (2) House-Surgeon, resident. Honorarium, £25 for six months.

EVELINA HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN, Southwark.—(1) Physician to Out-patients; (2) Clinical Assistants.

KENSINGTON UNION.—Second Assistant Medical Officer for the Workhouse and Infirmary, resident. Salary, £80 per annum.

LINCOLN COUNTY HOSPITAL.—Senior Male House-Surgeon, resident. Salary, £100 per annum.

LISTER INSTITUTE OF PREVENTIVE MEDICINE.—Jenner Memorial Studentship in Bacteriology, value £150.

LIVERPOOL INFIRMARY FOR CHILDREN.—Assistant House-Surgeon, resident. Salary, £30 for six months.

LONDON HOSPITAL, WHITECHAPEL, E.—Assistant Surgeon.

MACCLESFIELD GENERAL INFIRMARY.—Junior House-Surgeon, resident. Salary, £50 per annum.

NORWICH: NORFOLK AND NORWICH HOSPITAL.—Senior Assistant House-Surgeon, resident. Honorarium, £20 for six months.

QUEEN'S JUBILEE HOSPITAL, EARL'S COURT, S.W.—House-Surgeon, resident. Salary at the rate of £52 per annum.

READING: ROYAL BERKSHIRE HOSPITAL.—Assistant House-Surgeon, resident. Salary £60 per annum.

ROYAL EAR HOSPITAL, SOHO.—Honorary Assistant Anaesthetist.

ROYAL NAVY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.—Three Dental Surgeons. Inclusive salary, £1 per diem, and, when necessary, travelling expenses.

STOCKPORT INFIRMARY.—Assistant House and Visiting Surgeon, resident. Salary, £80 per annum.

APPOINTMENTS.

ALLEN, J. Lynn, M.B., B.Sc., Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator for the Second District of the Ongar Union.

BRAUND, A. M., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.Lond., District and Workhouse Medical Officer for the Stratton Union.

BROWN, A., L.R.C.P.I., M.R.C.S.Eng., Certifying Factory Surgeon for the Masham District, Yorkshire.

BROWN, F. H. Burton, M.D., Clinical Assistant to the Chelsea Hospital for Women.

COOK, H. G. G., M.D.Lond., F.R.C.S.Eng., Medical Officer to the Cardiff Prison, vice Dr. J. Ll. Treharne, M.R.C.S.Eng., resigned.

DOORLY, P. F., L.R.C.P. and S.Edin., L.F.P.S.Glas., Certifying Factory Surgeon for the Carrick-on-Shannon No. 2 District, Roscommon.

DOUGLAS-CRAWFORD, Douglas, M.B., F.R.C.S., Honorary Consulting Surgeon to the Liverpool Dental Hospital, vice F. T. Paul, F.R.C.S., resigned.

FRAMPTON, Trevethan, F.R.C.P., Clinical Assistant, Chelsea Hospital for Women.

HEPBURN, D., M.D.Edin., F.R.S.E., Examiner in Anatomy and Anthropology in the University of Edinburgh.

JONES, A. W. L., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., District Medical Officer of the Salisbury Union.

JONES, W. H., M.B., Resident Medical Officer, Mile End Old Town Infirmary.

KNAGGS, Francis Henry, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.Lond., Ophthalmic and Aural Surgeon to the Huddersfield Infirmary.

LAWRIE, W. J., M.D.Glas., Certifying Factory Surgeon for the Ayr District, Ayrshire.

MCLANNAHAN, J. G., L.R.C.P. and S.Ire., District Medical Officer of the Stroud Union.

OYSTON, W. F., M.B., Ch.B.Vict., District Medical Officer of the Hemsworth Union.

PERCIVAL, A. P., M.B., C.M.Edin., Certifying Factory Surgeon for the Knottingley District, Yorkshire.

PIERCE, R. W. C., M.D., B.Sc.Lond., D.P.H.Camb., Medical Officer of Health for the Borough of Guildford.

POPE, G. Stevens, L.R.C.P., etc., Medical Superintendent to the Somerset and Bath County Asylum, Wells, Somerset.

SLOAN, A. Bankier, M.D.Glasg., Extra Dispensary Physician, Glasgow Western Infirmary.

SMITH, Hugh, L.R.C.S.Edin., L.S.A., Resident Medical Officer, Dudley Dispensary, vice T. K. Williams, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.Lond.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

The charge for inserting announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is 3s. 6d., which sum should be forwarded in post-office orders or stamps with the notice not later than Wednesday morning, in order to ensure insertion in the current issue.

BIRTH.

CHAMBERLAIN.—On February 5th, at Pateley Bridge, Yorkshire, the wife of E. B. Chamberlain, M.R.C.S., L.S.A.Lond., of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

LEON—FRIEND.—On February 9th, 1905, at All Souls, Langham Place, John Temple Leon, M.D., to Katherine Mary Friend.

DEATH.

PARRY-JONES.—On February 8th, at Brynhawddgar, Pontyberem, Llanelly, William Richard Parry-Jones, L.R.C.P.and S.Edin., and L.M., L.S.A., aged 47 years.

DIARY FOR NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY.

MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W., 8 30 p.m.—(1) An analysis of 300 Consecutive Gynaecological Laparotomies, by Dr. A. H. N. Lewers. (2) Some Remarks on Caesarean Section, by Dr. W. J. Gow.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C., 5 p.m.—Hunterian Lecture: The Changes produced by Inflammation in the Conjunctiva, by Professor Stephen Mayou.

TUESDAY.

ROYAL MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY, 20, Hanover Square, 8.30 p.m. —Discussion on The Subsequent Course and Later History of Cases of Appendicitis after Operation, to be opened by Sir Frederick Treves; other speakers, Sir William Broadbent, Mr. Charters Symonds, Sir Lauder Brunton, Mr. Pearce Gould, Sir William Bennett, etc.

WEDNESDAY.

OBSTETRICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON, 20, Hanover Square W., 8 p.m.—Short communications: Surgeon-Captain J. C. Holdich Leicester: A Case of Chyluria with Pregnancy. Dr. A. H. N. Lewers: A Case of Pregnancy in a Rudimentary Uterine Cornu. Specimens: Dr. Giles: Extrauterine Pregnancy at Term. Dr. Herbert Williamson: Grape Sarcoma of the Cervix Uteri. Inaugural address by the President (Dr. W. R. Dakin) on the Present Teaching of Practical Midwifery in England.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C., 5 p.m.—Hunterian Lecture: The Changes produced by Inflammation in the Conjunctiva, by Professor Stephen Mayou.

THURSDAY.

CHILDHOOD SOCIETY, Parkes Museum, Margaret Street, W., 8 p.m.—Mental Faculty of the Child, its Growth and Culture, by Dr. Francis Warner.

NORTH-EAST LONDON CLINICAL SOCIETY, Tottenham Hospital, 4 p.m.—Paper: Mr. A. De Prenderville: Anaesthetic Difficulties and how to combat them.

FRIDAY.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C., 5 p.m.—Hunterian Lecture: The Changes produced by Inflammation in the Conjunctiva, by Professor Stephen Mayou.

SOCIETY OF ANAESTHETISTS, 20, Hanover Square, 8.30 p.m.—Dr. Flux: A Fatality associated with Ethyl Chloride. General discussion on Ethyl Chloride; to be opened by Dr. McCardie.

POST-GRADUATE COURSES AND LECTURES.

CENTRAL LONDON THROAT AND EAR HOSPITAL, Gray's Inn Road, W.C.—Wednesday, 5 p.m., Practical Demonstration of the Nose.

CHARING CROSS HOSPITAL, Thursday, 4 p.m.—Dermatological Demonstration.

HOSPITAL FOR CONSUMPTION AND DISEASES OF THE CHEST, Brompton, S.W.—Wednesday, 3 p.m., The Treatment of Chronic Cardiac Affections.

HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN, Great Ormond Street, W.C.—Thursday, 4 p.m., Cardiac Disease in Children.

MEDICAL GRADUATES' COLLEGE AND POLYCLINIC, 22, Chenies Street, W.C. —The following clinical demonstrations have been arranged for next week at 4 p.m. each day:—Monday, Skin; Tuesday, Medical: Wednesday, Surgical; Thursday, Surgical; Friday, Eye. Lectures at 5.15 p.m. each day will be given as follows:—Monday, Chronic Abscess of the Maxillary Antrum —its Causes, Diagnosis, and Treatment; Tuesday, Infective Diseases of Joints: Wednesday, Dyspepsia and its Treatment; Thursday, Ocular Headache—its Causes, Diagnosis, and Treatment.

MOUNT VERNON HOSPITAL FOR CONSUMPTION AND DISEASES OF THE CHEST, Central Out-patient Department, 7, Fitzroy Square, W.—Thursday, 5 p.m., Bronchial Affections of Children—I, Primary.

SAMARITAN FREE HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN, Marylebone Road, N.W.—Thursday, 3 p.m., Cases from the wards.

NATIONAL HOSPITAL FOR THE PARALYSED AND EPILEPTIC, Queen Square, W.C.—Tuesday, 3.30 p.m, Syringomyelia; Friday, 3.30 p.m., Cerebellar Disease.

NORTH-EAST LONDON POST-GRADUATE COLLEGE, Tottenham Hospital, N., —Tuesday, 3.30 p.m., Demonstration on General Paralysis of the Insane (at Colney Hatch Asylum, New Southgate, N.).

POST-GRADUATE COLLEGE, WEST LONDON HOSPITAL, Hammersmith, W.—The following lectures have been arranged for next week.—Monday, 5 p.m., Practical Surgery; Tuesday, The Question of Responsibility and Moral Insanity; Wednesday, Practical Medicine; Thursday, 2 p.m., Mr. Keetley; Friday, 3 p.m. (at Hanwell Asylum), Insanity at the Epochs of Life.

BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

The Gardening Year Book and Garden Oracle, 1905. By the Editor of "The Gardeners' Magazine." 47th year. London: "The Gardeners' Magazine" Office. 1s.

Congenital Dislocation of the Hip. By J. Jackson Clarke, M.B.Lond., F.R.C.S. Second edition. London: The Practitioner, Limited. 1905. 1s. 6d.

Zur Chirurgie der Ureteren. Von Dr. M. Zondek. Berlin: August Hirschwald. 1905. Mk. 2.

The Naked-Eye Anatomy of the Human Teeth. By Thos. E. Constant, L.R.C.P.Lond., L.D.S., M.R.C.S.Eng. Bristol: John Wright and Co. 1905. 7s. 6d.

Transactions of the Epidemiological Society of London. New series Vol. xxiii. Session 1903-4. London: Williams and Norgate. 1904. 6s

Essentials of Nervous Diseases and Insanity: Their Symptoms and Treatment. By John C. Shaw, M.D. Fourth edition. Thoroughly revised by Smith Ely Jelliffe, M.D., Ph.D. London: Henry Kimpton. 1904. 4s.

Lectures on Diseases of the Stomach and Intestines. By Boardman Reed, M.D. Bristol: John Wright and Co. 1905. 21s.

The Undesirable Alien from the Medical Standpoint. By Robert R Rentoul. Liverpool: Cornish and Sons. 1905. 6d.

The Splendour of the Human Body: A Reparation and an Appeal. By the Right Rev. C. H. Brent, D.D., Bishop of the Philippine Islands. London: Longmans, Green, and Co. 1904. 2s. 6d.

Manual of Operative Surgery. By John Fairbairn Binnie, A.M., C.M. Aberd. Philadelphia: P. Blakiston's Son and Co.; and London: H. K. Lewis. 1905. 12s. 6d.

Steilt die Bottinische Operation einen Fortschritt in der Behandlung der chronischen Urinretention bei Prostatikern dar? Von Professor Dr. Max Jaffé. Abdruck aus dem Klinischen Jahrbuch. Dreizehnter Band. Jena: Gustav Fischer. 1904. Mk. 2.

Bacteriology and Surgical Technic for Nurses. By Emily M. A. Stoney. Second edition, revised and enlarged by Frederic Richardson Griffith, M.D. Philadelphia, New York, and London: W. B. Saunders and Co. 1905. 6s. 6d.

Diet in Health and Disease. By Julius Friedenwald, M.D., and John Ruhräh, M.D. Philadelphia, New York, and London: W. B. Saunders and Co. 1905. 18s.

A Textbook of Legal Medicine. By Frank Winthrop Draper, A.M., M.D. Harv. Philadelphia, New York, and London: W. B. Saunders and Co. 1905. 18s.

The Practical Study of Malaria and other Blood Parasites. By J. W. W. Stephens, M.D.Cantab., D.P.H.; and S. R. Christophers, M.B.Vict., I.M.S. London: Williams and Norgate. 1904.

*** In forwarding books the publishers are requested to state the selling price.

CALENDAR OF THE ASSOCIATION.

Month.	Day of Week.	Meetings to be Held.
February	25...SATURDAY...	Leinster Branch, Royal College of Physicians, Kildare Street, Dublin, 4.30 p.m.
,,	26...Sunday..	
,,	27...MONDAY ...	
,,	28...TUESDAY ...	North Northumberland Division, *North of England Branch*, Elder House, Ravensdowne, Berwick-on-Tweed, 2.30 p.m. Secretaries of Sections for the Annual Meeting must send in to the General Secretary, 429, Strand, on or before this day preliminary statement of arrangements made for their Leicester discussions.
March	1...WEDNESDAY	
,,	2...THURSDAY...	LONDON: Hospitals Committee, 2.30 p.m. ,, At the Metropolitan Asylums Board, Hospitals Conference, 3 p.m. Manchester (North) Division, *Lancashire and Cheshire Branch*, Clinical Society's Rooms, Palatine Hotel, Manchester, 4.15 p.m. South Essex Division, *East Anglian Branch*, Victoria Hospital, Southend-on-Sea, 4 p.m. South-Western Branch, Red Lion Hotel, Truro, 3 p.m.
,,	3...FRIDAY ...	LONDON: Chairmen of Committees *re* Alteration of Memorandum, 3 p.m. Folkestone Division, *South-Eastern Branch*, 1, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, 8.30 p.m.
,,	4...SATURDAY...	
,,	5...Sunday..	
,,	6...MONDAY ...	
,,	7...TUESDAY ...	Coventry Division, *Birmingham Branch*, Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital, 8.30 p.m. South Midland Branch, Council Meeting, Franklin's Restaurant, Guildhall Road, Northampton, 3.30 p.m.
,,	8...WEDNESDAY	LONDON: Secretaries of Branches and Divisions on the Central Council, 3 p.m.
,,	9...THURSDAY...	Norwood Division, *South-Eastern Branch*, Queen's Hotel, Upper Norwood, 4 p.m.
,,	10...FRIDAY ...	
,,	11...SATURDAY...	
,,	12...Sunday..	
,,	13...MONDAY ...	
,,	14...TUESDAY ...	
,,	15...WEDNESDAY	Latest date for furnishing Annual Report and Financial Statement of all Branches to General Secretary (By-law 9).
,,	16...THURSDAY...	LONDON: Metropolitan Counties Branch Division Secretaries, 5 p.m.
,,	17...FRIDAY ...	LONDON: Ethical Committee, 2.0 p.m.
,,	18...SATURDAY...	
,,	19...Sunday..	
,,	20...MONDAY ...	
,,	21...TUESDAY ...	
,,	22...WEDNESDAY	LONDON: Medico-Political Committee, 3.0 p.m. Brighton Division, *South-Eastern Branch*, Dispensary, 113, Queen's Road, Brighton, 4.30 p.m.
,,	23...THURSDAY...	City Division, *Metropolitan Counties Branch*, Business Meeting, Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool Street, E.C., 4 p.m. Wandsworth Division, *Metropolitan Counties Branch*, Wandsworth Town Hall, 9.0 p.m.
,,	24...FRIDAY ...	
,,	25...SATURDAY...	
,,	26...Sunday..	
,,	27...MONDAY ...	
,,	28...TUESDAY ...	
March	29...WEDNESDAY	
,,	30...THURSDAY...	Altrincham Division, *Lancashire and Cheshire Branch*, Quarterly General Meeting, Brooklands Hotel, 5 p.m.
,,	31...FRIDAY ...	
April	1...SATURDAY...	
,,	2...Sunday..	
,,	3...MONDAY ...	
,,	4...TUESDAY ...	
,,	5...WEDNESDAY	Notices of Motion for Quarterly Council Meeting must be given on or before this day.
,,	6...THURSDAY...	
,,	7...FRIDAY ...	
,,	8...SATURDAY...	
,,	9...Sunday..	
,,	10...MONDAY ...	
,,	11...TUESDAY ...	LONDON: Organization Committee, 10.30 a.m.
,,	12...WEDNESDAY	,, Journal and Finance Committee.
,,	13...THURSDAY...	
,,	14...FRIDAY ...	Wandsworth Division, *Metropolitan Counties Branch*, Worple Hall, Wimbledon, 9.0 p.m.
,,	15...SATURDAY...	Notices of Motion for Annual Representative Meeting must be sent by Divisions to General Secretary on or before this day In view of Easter Week, notices of Branch and Division Meetings for insertion in the next issue of JOURNAL should be posted to-day.
,,	16...Sunday..	
,,	17...MONDAY ...	
,,	18...TUESDAY ...	LONDON: Premises and Library Committee.
,,	19...WEDNESDAY	,, Central Council, 11 a.m.
,,	20...THURSDAY...	
,,	21...FRIDAY ...	*Good Friday.*
,,	22...SATURDAY...	Notices of Motion for Annual Representative Meeting appear in JOURNAL.
,,	23...Sunday..	
,,	24...MONDAY ...	*Bank Holiday.* Elections by Divisions of Representatives for Representative Meetings are required to be held between this date and July 3rd.
,,	25...TUESDAY ...	Matters for consideration by Organization Committee on May 9th should be notified to Medical Secretary on or before this day.
,,	26...WEDNESDAY	Brighton Division, *South-Eastern Branch*, Dispensary, 113, Queen's Road, Brighton, 4.30 p.m.
,,	27...THURSDAY...	City and Walthamstow Divisions, *Metropolitan Counties Branch*, Conjoint Meeting, Brooke House, Upper Clapton, 8.30 p.m. Wandsworth Division, *Metropolitan Counties Branch*, Clapham Junction, 4 p.m.
,,	28...FRIDAY ...	
,,	29...SATURDAY...	List of Members closed for publication.
,,	30...Sunday..	
May	1...MONDAY ...	
,,	2...TUESDAY ...	
,,	3...WEDNESDAY	
,,	4...THURSDAY...	
,,	5...FRIDAY ...	
,,	6...SATURDAY...	
,,	7...Sunday..	
,,	8...MONDAY ...	
,,	9...TUESDAY ...	LONDON: Organization Committee.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The seventy-third annual meeting of the Association will be held at Leicester on July 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, and 28th. The Honorary Local Secretaries are Dr. Astley V. Clarke, 37, London Road, Leicester, and Mr. F. Bolton Carter, M.S., 99, London Road, Leicester; the Honorary Secretary of the Pathological Museum is Dr. Robert Sevestre, 119, London Road, Leicester.

The Annual General Meeting for business will begin at 2 p.m. on Monday, July 24th, and the first session of the Annual Representative Meeting will be held immediately afterwards. The first meetings of the Sections will begin at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, July 26th.

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